

The Brooklyn Paper

Including The Brooklyn Heights Paper, Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill Paper, DUMBO Paper, Fort Greene-Clinton Hill Paper and the Downtown News



Published every Saturday — online all the time — by Brooklyn Paper Publications Inc., 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn NY 11201. Phone 718-834-9350 • www.BrooklynPapers.com • © 2005 Brooklyn Paper Publications • 18 pages BWN • Vol. 28, No. 48 • Saturday, December 10, 2005 • FREE

THE SURVEY SAYS...

BORO'S BIZ FEARS 2006

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Papers

Un-happy New Year!

That will be the cheer of many Brooklyn businesses as the clock strikes midnight on Jan. 1, 2006, according to a just-released report by the borough's Chamber of Commerce.

Only 31 percent of business owners believe they will have a good year in 2006 — a marked contrast to the 80 percent of companies that expected good things as they went into 2005.

Roughly 55 percent think 2006 will be worse or about the same as 2005.

Chamber President Kenneth Adams attributed the pessimism to higher energy and real estate costs. Fuel expenditures jumped to number three on the business owners' list of "obstacles to growth," right behind health care and insurance costs, those perennial revenue-sappers.

"Brooklyn businesses did well in 2005, but they're looking at 2006 with caution," Adams said.

"Brooklyn is a small-business economy, and those types of economies are very dependent on external forces. We don't have large margins for error. If the bills go way up, it's a big deal."

The survey was sent out after Labor Day to all 1,200 members of the Chamber of Commerce, but answered by only 177 businesses, or 14.7 percent.

The survey also showed that:

• Nearly 70 percent of businesses believe they will hire new employees next year.

• The city needs to do a better job in Brooklyn. Nearly 80 percent cited potholes and poor streets conditions as a problem. Liter was a concern of 64 percent.

• A majority — but not a strong majority — believes the city school system is moving in the right direction. The 53 percent who said the school system is getting better is a jump from only 40 percent who answered that way last year.

• Only 18 percent of business owners oppose Bruce Ratner's plans for a 24-acre commercial, residential, retail and athletic complex at Atlantic Yards; sixty-one percent support it — numbers almost identical to last year's poll results.

• Wal-Mart still has a lot of 'spaining to do. The company is in the midst of a large public-relations campaign, yet only 33 percent of Brooklyn businesses support a big-box Wal-Mart in the borough — and only if "a suitable location could be found." Forty-four percent oppose the discount retailer.

Big support for Ratner, but little support for Wal-Mart — but Adams did not see a contradiction.

"Small business owners support projects they think will strengthen the marketplace by bringing in new customers or new investment, but they think Wal-Mart threatens the vitality of marketplace," Adams said.

"And some just don't like the company."

PAGE 7



'Produced' in Brooklyn
Nathan and Uma star in first film shot at Steiner Studios

'Park' towers shrink, grow

By Ariella Cohen
The Brooklyn Papers

Bowing to critics, planners of the Brooklyn Bridge Park waterfront development have proposed bringing down the height of some of the commercial buildings that would subsidize it.

But the smaller buildings would come at a cost. One building, on Furman Street at the foot of Joralemon Street — which was not slated for residential development in prior renderings — would now be converted to high-end condos.

And in one scheme, a 30-story condo tower rising near Atlantic Avenue, would shrink by 10 stories — but a neighboring building would grow in height to compensate.

Critics slammed such changes as merely tinkering around the edges of a misguided park-and-residential scheme.

"They are switching up the chess pieces — they aren't improving the game," said Judi Francis, president of a group that opposes the current development plan.

But designers clearly tried to fix some gripes. On John Street in DUMBO, planners trimmed a proposed residential building by 100 feet. And instead of a 15-foot-wide sidewalk at the Atlantic Avenue entrance, which critics said did not properly welcome the public into a park, visitors will pass through a 70-foot, tree-lined entrance.

Planners also eliminated a controversial roadway — covering that area with grass.

But the changes weren't enough for Atlantic Avenue Betterment Association President Sandy Balboa: "Shorter here, taller there — residential development on Atlantic just isn't going to benefit the avenue."

Both Balboa and Francis got a sneak-preview of the latest plans on Wednesday at the office of park designer Michael Van Valkenburgh. The private meeting was the latest in a series of public discussions meant to quell the tide of criticism that the \$150-million plan has provoked in the neighborhoods that will surround it.

The development will stretch from the Manhattan Bridge to Atlantic Avenue when it's complete in 2012.

The new design will be unveiled to the public on Tuesday before it moves into the final round of environmental assessments and ultimate approval in Albany.



Build it and they will lounge: A planner's vision of Brooklyn Bridge Park.

Less Vegas, more Coney

Another new plan for beachfront Mecca scales down original



New plans for development along the Boardwalk in Coney Island (above) have been scaled-down since original glitzy plans were revealed in September (below).



By Ariella Cohen
The Brooklyn Papers

Reality has already hit Joe Sitt's development plan for Coney Island.

Where only a few months ago, Sitt was hawking an indoor, Vegas-style complex with a water park, a climbing wall, a blimp port, and a House of Blues theme restaurant, new schematics now show a more subdued face for his proposed amusement Mecca.

Sitt's "Stillwell Walk" would run from Surf Avenue to the Boardwalk, from W. 15th to W. 12th streets. If it's built, Coney land, marks such as Ruby's Bar on the Boardwalk, and Faber's Fascination, an old-time game saloon on Surf Avenue, would be demolished.

Instead of those vintage amusements, Sitt bets on bringing in the Boardwalk's only movie theater or even a circus.

Sitt owns 12 acres of prime, albeit faded, Boardwalk properties near Stillwell Avenue. He presented the plans to Community Board 13 last Thursday.

Sitt did not return repeated calls from The Brooklyn Papers.

Coney Island insiders — who've seen plenty of "renewal" plans burst faster than balloons in a carney sideshow — viewed the new designs with some optimism.

"It's better than it was, but it still needs some work," said Dick Zigun, founder of the Coney Island Circus Sideshow and

a longtime player in the seaside attraction's future.

Sitt's plan for a 19-story condo tower and retail center has drawn intense fire from community members.

"I don't know why they keep trying this in Brooklyn," said Zigun. "Don't they ever learn that amusement parks and bars where people get drunk and load don't mix well with housing."

For now, the condos are just another sandy mirage — unless Sitt can get the city to change the zoning to even allow a residential use.



A winter welcome

A snowman either has his arms raised in glee or is shooting away some pesky Canadian geese after the season's first snowfall, at DUMBO's Empire Fulton-Ferry state park on Sunday.



'We were born to succeed, not to fail' — Henry David Thoreau

BE A WINNER IN 2006 — JOIN THE PAPER TEAM

January openings in EDITORIAL, SALES and WEB departments



Great people, great company, great career — great life!

Go to BrooklynPapers.com and click on Job Opportunities



starting at \$49.95

107 Atlantic Ave.
(bet. Henry & Hicks)
www.floralheights.com
(718) 625-2066

New Year's Eve 2006

NO COVER! NO MINIMUM!
Now accepting dinner reservations.
Serving until midnight.
Free wine and champagne toast at midnight.
Watch the Times Square ball fall
on our two 8-foot jumbo-tron screens!
The UNDERWATER LOUNGE with
all its mystique, will open at 10:30pm, filled
with music until 5am (bar open until 4am).

Water Street Restaurant

For Reservations and Information: (718) 625-9352
66 Water Street / DUMBO Brooklyn • www.waterstreetrestaurant.com



139 Montague Street • 718.858.5592
www.latrattoria.com • Delivery in Brooklyn Heights only

House Special!

NEW YORK SIRLOIN STEAK

with Sautéed Mushrooms,
Potato, Vegetable,
and Mixed Green Salad

155 Smith St. Open 24/7
718-403-9940 FREE DELIVERY

Jeff C. Strachan, DDS

189 Montague Street
Suite 800A
Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 783-0504
Office
(917) 753-3314
Emergency and Evening

Jeff.strachan@verizon.net
Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri 9am to 6pm
Sat 10am to 5pm • Sun 12pm to 5pm

Prosthetically Driven Implant Dental Practice with Periodontics as its Core

- Implants Surgically Placed and Restored
- Periodontics - Treatment of Gum Disease - Surgical and Non-Surgical Therapy
- Endodontics - Using rotary instrumentation for faster more thorough cleaning with less post operative discomfort
- Digital X-Rays - 90% Less Radiation
- Extractions - Simple and Complex
- Aesthetic Dentistry - Porcelain Laminates, White Fillings, Bleaching, Metal Free Crowns
- Zoom Bleaching
- Restorative Dentistry A-Z

Full Service Comprehensive Dental Practice

LET GO of your STOMACH PROBLEMS

Are you a woman
experiencing any
of these
symptoms?

- Early fullness while eating
- Post-meal fullness
- Bloating

You may have a digestive condition called **DYSPEPSIA**, which may occur during or after eating. Our physicians are conducting a research study for **DYSPEPSIA** with the investigational use of an already approved medication and invite you to take part. If you qualify you will receive all study examinations and study medication.

For more information,
please call:
718-349-3774

www.belly911.com

Woman refuses to surrender her Gucci

By Lilo H. Stainton
The Brooklyn Papers

The mugger could have her Gucci bag and the Prada make-up case inside it.

A 25-year-old woman put her life in danger to retain the luxury luggage after a young, well-dressed man mugged on DeKalb Avenue, at Waverly Avenue, around 3:45 am on Dec. 2, police said.

The young woman ran in fear as the dapper thief rode up behind her on a bicycle. He caught up to her and demanded money while beating her about the face and shoulders, police said.

The victim offered up her wallet, but police said the thug wanted more. He grabbed for the bag, wrenched the leather strap free and rode off. But the victim sprinted after the thug, determined to recover the high-end bag and its pricey contents, valued at over \$1,300, police said.

The robber fled south on Waverly with the victim in pursuit. Eventually, the thief turned and yelled, "I will shoot you," while acting as though he had a gun in his waist band, before he disappeared down Waverly on his two wheels.

Police are searching for an Hispanic man, around age 30, 5-foot-7 and 180 pounds, with short hair. He was dressed for the occasion in gray pants, a black sport coat and a black skullcap, police said.

The victim said the stolen Gucci bag held her wallet with credit and bank cards, the make-up case and an iPod.

Family burgled

What a difference a day makes — in this case, a difference of \$700 in electronics.

Sometime between 1 pm on Dec. 2, and the same hour the next day, a burglar broke into a home on Hoyt Street, between Baltic and Warren streets, and left with a TV set and a camera. The homeowner came home to find the cylinder lock from her front gate broken and the gate pried open, police said.

Bank heist

His mother would have been proud — of some things, at least.

A well-mannered thief wore a dapper black blazer as he robbed the Independence Community Bank on Montague Street on Nov. 30, police said.

Police said the thief walked into the branch, between Court and Clinton streets, at 10:40 am and passed the bank teller a note that read, "This is a holdup and I have a gun in my pocket. Put \$1,000 in an envelope and hand it to me."

The 23-year-old teller stocked a paper pouch with six \$100 bills and handed it over.

POLICE BLOTTER

But instead of complaining about the \$400 shortfall, the thief said, "Thank you," and left the bank, walking down Montague Street toward Court Street, police said.

The teller described the robber as a white man, 5-foot-8 and 170 pounds, with straight brown hair. He also used a cane and walked with a limp.

Wallet snatched

A quick-fingered thief stole a wallet from an attorney who turned his back for just a moment as he made a deposit at his bank on Dec. 1.

The 54-year-old victim stopped at a Montague Street branch, near Clinton Street, at 12:45 pm to make a deposit, police said. He told cops that he left his wallet on the ledge and turned around only briefly — but it was clearly more than enough time for the swift swindler to swipe the billfold and disappear.

The wallet — a fancy Tommy Hilfiger model — contained credit cards, the attorney's ID card, a Connecticut driver's license, a \$40 Metro-Cash and a Metro-North monthly train pass worth \$250, police said.

Thugs in & out

A city prison system employee lost \$150 to a pair of muggers who jumped her just after sunset on Dec. 1, police said.

The thugs grabbed the 28-year-old victim as she reached the corner of DeKalb and Flatbush avenues. One thief shoved her and insisted, "Give me your f---ing bag," before snatching the pocketbook from her shoulder and fleeing west on DeKalb, police said.

The bag also held the woman's cellphone, her Corrections Department identification card and various credit and bank cards.

The victim described one mugger as a black man, 5-foot-10, dressed in a black coat and hat. His accomplice was also black, 6-foot-2, 185 pounds, and chose a similar outfit, police said.

Armed rob

A gun-toting teen stole a cellphone and fake-diamond earrings from another teen as he walked to the F train station at Smith and Bergen streets on Nov. 28, police said.

The robber caught up with his 19-year-old victim near the station at 6:45 pm, spun him around and shoved a black handgun into his face.

The thug gestured with his weapon and said, "You know what this is [so] give it up," according to police. The victim turned over the phone and earrings, which were merely cut glass.

Police are looking for a

black man, 18- to 20-years old, 5-foot-7 and 130 pounds, according to the victim's description. The thief wore a black snorkel jacket and a blue turban on the night of the crime.

Hook murder

Violent crime is down in Carroll Gardens, Boerum Hill and Red Hook, but police in the 76th Precinct are now investigating a brutal stabbing — possibly drug related — that marks their fourth homicide this year.

That's already three more homicides than occurred in all of 2004, statistics show.

In the latest attack, the victim's brother discovered his sibling — with knife wounds in the head and neck — around 9:30 pm on Dec. 2, police said. The brother called paramedics to the apartment, on Verona Street near Van Brunt, and the EMTs made it official: the 40-year-old man was dead.

Sources said the murder was drug-related, and police said they found no evidence of a forced entry into the apartment. Investigators expect to learn more from the medical examiner's autopsy.

Serious crime is down in the 76th Precinct, with 50 percent fewer burglaries this year, 9 percent fewer assaults and 7 percent fewer burglaries, police said.

The spike in murders — three in the precinct since Sept. 1 — remains a significant drop from the 12 homicides of 1995 and the 15 in 1990, the precinct's "bad old days."

Shoe snatch

These shoes were made for walking. And that's just what they did.

On Nov. 28, a woman helped herself to a luxury shoe collection worth more than \$5,000 at the Bergen Street home of her estranged husband, police said.

The husband, 42, was not at the home, near Hoyt Street, around 5 pm when his wife stopped by, telling the man's mother that she needed to drop off some papers.

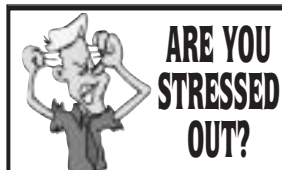
But Mom did not see what her daughter-in-law took when she left. The missing shoes included two pairs of Gucci sneakers, worth over \$500 each, a pair of Prada trainers, three pairs of ostrich and crocodile shoes, and two pairs of alligator-skin shoes costing \$875 and \$1,500.

The woman also took a DVD player and other articles of clothing, police said.

Escape foiled

The thief snatched several gallons that would be perfect in eluding police on a high-speed escape, but there was only one problem: She couldn't get out of the store.

At 2:30 pm on Nov. 28,



Introducing Dr. John Guo
Ruyi Bodywork of Brooklyn
Treatment for:
Acupuncture • Herbal Medicine • Acupressure
Shiatsu • Qi Gong Massage • Foot Reflexology
234 Court St. (near Baltic St.) 718-643-6892



NEED A RIDE?
We go anywhere
JFK, LGA, NWK
Luxury cars, minivans, &
wedding limos available
Court Express
718-237-8888
24 Hour • 7 Day Dispatch

**Loose
Dentures?**
GO AHEAD....
Eat what you want!

Visit Dr. Tony Farha in the morning, have the "Advanced, Non-Invasive Implant System" placed in less than two hours, then go out and enjoy your favorite lunch. No more messy adhesive or pastes.

As demonstrated by Dr. Tony on ABC News and recently on Fox 5 News, this is a one-step, non-invasive procedure. No sutures, nor the typical months of healing or pain or discomfort. **Competitive prices...**

Call today for your **FREE** consultation and receive **15% OFF** any new Dentures, Implants or MDI (Mini Dental Implant).
Must present this ad. Limited time only.

718-8DENTX5
(718-833-6895)

Dr. Tony Farha has been recognized as a Professor of the Mini Dental Implant.

Oral Dental Care
Home of the Mini-Implant System
461 77th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209
We accept Medicaid and most insurance plans

SATNICK's

has lost our lease after 46 years! We are moving out of our present location on January 6.

We have a large selection of diamond, 14 kt. gold, sterling silver jewelry and fine giftware

60% OFF*

60% OFF*

EVERYTHING MUST GO!

at 60% off suggested retail price*

Don't miss this once in a lifetime chance to purchase a beautiful piece of jewelry at unbelievably low low prices!!!

JEWELS BY SATNICK, LTD.

196 Joralemon Street (between Court and Clinton) (718) 852-1421

COMING SOON: LOOK FOR SATNICK'S GRAND OPENING AT OUR NEW LOCATION!

* All sales are final and may not be combined with any other discount or previous sale. Engagement rings, watches, custom & special orders are excluded from this sale. Merchandise bought before Dec. 1 does not apply to this sale.

There's nothing quite like giving the PERFECT GIFT!



Alba Botanica Organic Bath & Body Gift Set

- Bath & Shower Gel (12 fl. oz.)
- Very Emollient Body Lotion (12 fl. oz.)
- Mango Vanilla Moisturizing Shower Cream (8 fl. oz.)
- Exfoliating Towel & Razor

\$21.95



Brooklyn's Best Source for Natural Bath & Body

WE CARRY: Burt's Bees, Shikal, Alba Organics, Ecco Bella, Kiss My Face, Avalon Organics, California Baby & Many More Brands

143 Fifth Ave in Park Slope (Between St. John's & Lincoln Plazas) (718) 230-3802

'Soho lofts' on the way to Fulton Mall

By Ariella Cohen
The Brooklyn Papers

Is Fulton Mall the next Soho?

The people who oversee the bustling downtown bazaar think so, thanks to a renewed push to convert hundreds of upper-floor offices into artists' lofts.

"My experience is loft conversion in Soho and Tribeca," said Albert Laboz, the owner of a seven-story landmark building at 505 Fulton St. on the outdoor pedestrian mall.

"We'd like to do the same thing down there and we want the city to help us the way they helped neighborhoods in Manhattan," added Laboz, who is also co-chairman of the Fulton Street Mall.

Many regard the mall — which runs from Boerum Place to Flatbush Avenue and is dominated by chain stores, cellphone emporiums, 99-cent joints and electronic outlets — as a missed opportunity, given its location in the center of Brooklyn's business district.

Yet the mall is the borough's busiest, with 100,000 shoppers daily, according to the Fulton Mall Improvement Association. Its commercial rents rival only Seventh Avenue in Park Slope and Montague Street in Brooklyn Heights, according to the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce.

Yet mall officials say the Target department store at Atlantic Center — plus Bruce Ratner's proposed Atlantic Yards complex at Flatbush and Atlantic avenues — show that Fulton Mall needs to change its mix. "If you sit still, you actually can go backwards," said Fulton Mall Improvement Association President Michael Weiss. "The big boxes and other retailers are competitive. Fulton has to do things that insure its future."

Weiss believes that adding residential lofts to the mix at Fulton would add to its "diversity" by bringing new people in. "What people have found in Red Hook and DUMBO is live-work (studio and residential space together) and it has been good for the neighbor-



This building, on Fulton Mall near Jay Street, is being eyed for Soho-style artist's lofts.

hoods. We could easily convert some of the space above the storefronts into that kind of loft space," he said.

The only question would be whether the spaces would be affordable to artists and advantageous to property owners, Weiss said.

Fulton Mall was part of the Downtown Brooklyn Plan that was approved by the city last year, but no specifics were offered. A loft-filled mall does fit in with the Plan's stated goal of a mixed-use downtown, but opponents say any proposal to bring artists to Fulton Street smacks of gentrification.

"That space is very important to black New Yorkers," said Allison Dean, an urban planner who studied the mall for Pratt Institute. "People grew up going there with grandmothers," Dean said. "When you ask why they still shop there, they say it's one of the last places left in Brooklyn

where they can still bargain for a deal. I don't see how loft development will benefit these shoppers."

Nonetheless, Weiss's group has begun talking with downtown planners and will soon offer proposals to the city, which would have to rezone the area for residential use.

Proponents believe the Fulton district, with its Romanesque buildings and busy streets, could be eligible for the same city subsidies that lured residential developers to convert old office buildings in Lower Manhattan.

If artists start filling the lofts upstairs, the businesses downstairs are destined to change, too, experts said. "Nicer stores are coming," said Eddie Aydag, the owner of Mirage Boutique, a woman's clothing store with two locations on the mall. But Aydag thinks the strip will be less like Soho and more like 34th Street in Manhattan.

Before the Civil War, Fulton Street was a way station along the Underground Railroad, as escaped slaves headed for Canada via the Fulton Ferry docks. By the end of the 19th century, the street was known for its stately brick buildings and upscale department stores.

The fancy buildings remain, but the big-name stores and lunchettes have long since fled to the suburbs. The high-volume stores that filled the vacuum remain.

CELEBRATING 52 YEARS
1953 **door Store** 2005
FURNITURE FOR HOME & OFFICE



Just add a big bow.

10 day limited offer!

Clinton Chair \$179⁹⁹

Will be \$199* starting 12/19/05.

UPS this chair anywhere!

*contiguous 48 states, UPS shipping charges apply.

NOW OPEN IN BROOKLYN! 475 Atlantic Avenue

Between 3rd and Nevins.
(718) 237-8888
M-Sat: 10-7
Thurs: 10-8
Sun: 11-6

Gift certificates available in any amount!

Open the door to great savings.

MANHATTAN • BROOKLYN • WESTCHESTER • LONG ISLAND • NEW JERSEY • CONNECTICUT
UPPER EAST SIDE: 909 3rd Ave. at 58th St. (212) 421-5271 MIDTOWN: 1 Park Ave. at 33rd St. (212) 679-9700
UPPER WEST SIDE: 201 Amsterdam Ave. at 89th St. (212) 561-8600 QUEEN: 123-10 71st St. bet. 68th & 79th Aves. (212) 627-1515 SCARSDALE, NY: Showroom & Clearance Store, 945 Central Ave., Midway Shopping Center, next to Linens 'n Things (914) 723-5113 MANHASSET, NY: 1457 Northern Blvd. at Shelter Rock Rd., opp. Lord & Taylor (516) 627-2600 EAST HANOVER, NJ: 136-19 10 West 2nd floor above Bopa Fresh, in front of Target opp. Lowe's Cinema (973) 884-8766 SECAUCUS, NJ: Showroom & Clearance Store, 100 Enterprise Ave., South (201) 864-8844 GREENWICH, CT: 193 Greenwich Ave. next to Seta's (203) 861-7505
WWW.DOORSTOREFURNITURE.COM • For national ordering call: 1-877-DOOR STORE
Ends 12/18/05. Not applicable to prior orders. Financing available.

BABY IT'S COLD OUT!

Warm up with a new heater

De'Longhi SafeHeater \$19.99

Holmes Quartz Heater \$79.99

Vornado Vortex Heater \$99.99

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Huge selection of Christmas Decorations...



Bows, Lights, & More!

AMERICAN HOUSEWARES
We Appreciate Your Business!

85 Court Street in Downtown Brooklyn
Open 7 Days A Week • (718) 243-0844

Subway: A, C, F, M, R, 2, 3, 4, 5 • **10% OFF** ALL ITEMS (EXCLUDING WINE & BEER)

Over 30 Years in Business • Fastest Growing Delivery within Brooklyn

IT KNOWS IF YOU'VE BEEN GOOD.



MINI OF MANHATTAN
555 West 57th Street
(at 11th Avenue)
New York, NY
212.586.MINI
www.mininyc.com

'Tis the season at MINI of Manhattan!

©2005 MINI, a division of BMW of North America, LLC. The MINI name and logo are registered trademarks.



RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Congregation Kol Israel

Located in Prospect Heights since 1924
603 St. Johns Place
bet. Classon & Franklin
638-6583
Rabbi Elkanah Schwartz
Fri. at Sunset • Sat. 10:00am
Rosh Hashana 10/26/05

Park Slope Jewish Center
8th Avenue at 14th St.
Fri. nights 7:30 pm - 10 am
Sat. mornings 10 am - 12 pm
Adult Ed. Hebrew School
Rabbi Carol Carter
Park Slope Synagogue
Conservative Synagogue
768-1453 838-31

Union Temple

Park Slope's Friendliest Reform Congregation
SHABBAT SERVICES:
First Friday monthly 6:30 p.m.
followed by Potluck Dinner 8:15 p.m.
All other Friday evenings 10:30 a.m.
Saturday mornings 10:30 a.m.
17 Eastern Parkway
at Grand Army Plaza
638-7600 844

Congregation Mount Sinai

250 Cadman Plaza W.
Conservative/Egalitarian
A House for Prayer / A Home for People
718-875-9124
Friday Eve. Services 6:30pm
Saturday Morning 10:00am
Rabbi Joseph Potashnick
642-22-41

Shabbat Shalom!

Presented by
B'nai Avraham
of Brooklyn Heights
117 Remsen St. • 596-4840
Rabbi Aaron Raskin

Candle Lighting

Vayetzei
Fri., December 9, 10:30am - 4:10pm

Vayishlach
Fri., December 16, 10:30am - 4:10pm

MANHATTAN-QUALITY SHOPPING... IN BROOKLYN!



Your neighborhood market - with the low prices & convenience you deserve!

Largest selection of **NATURAL & ORGANIC PRODUCTS**

Great selection of **BEERS & ALES** from around the world

Gourmet Deli, Cheeses, and Meats



369 Flatbush Ave.

(between 7th & 8th Avenues)

Home Delivery Service Available

Open 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year!

(718) 789-3007

Owning A Home Has Never Been Easier!



- Streamlined Application Process
- Pre-approvals in 24 hours
- Residential & Commercial Mortgages
- 1st & 2nd Mortgages
- Direct Lending
- Low or no down payment options
- Post-bankruptcy & no credit approvals
- No income / no asset verification



LIBERTY CAPITAL

PURCHASES MORTGAGES REFINANCE

(718) 351-5050 CELL (718) 612-1122

9351 HYLAN BLVD. ST. NY 10306 • LICENSED MORTGAGE BANKER NYS BANKING DEPT



John Errante
Senior MORTGAGE BANKER

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS!



Treat your loved ones to one of our signature facials, body treatments or massages this holiday season!

FREE SPA MANICURE with every gift certificate purchase of \$100 or more

Expires December 31, 2005 • Mention ad for offer



157 Fifth Avenue (between Lincoln and St. Johns) Park Slope, NY 11217 TEL 718-398-2100
Open 7 days www.dmaibanspa.com Extended Hours

2 PSZ

THE BROOKLYN PAPERS • WWW.BROOKLYNPAPERS.COM

December 10, 2005

Bad start to day for a morning mug victim

By Lilo H. Stainton
The Brooklyn Papers

You know it's going to be a bad day when you're robbed at gunpoint before 10 a.m.

A 39-year-old man found that out on Dec. 2, when he was followed by two strangers after leaving his bank on Ninth Street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

When the strangers caught up with him, one poked a gun into the back of his head.

"Don't even think about it or I'll put a hole in your head," the gunman said, dramatically. The other robber reached into the victim's pocket and removed the just-withdrawn \$680. The pair of thieves ran down Ninth Street before the victim could get a good look at them, police said.

Outside grocery
Beggars can't be choosers, but they can be takers.

A 29-year-old woman learned that the hard way on Nov. 29, as she left a Flatbush Avenue supermarket just before midnight, according to police.

POLICE BLOTTER

The woman told police that a man with a dark hood asked her for some spare change as she walked away from the grocery, at Eighth Avenue.

As she nervously walked, her wallet fell from her coat pocket and the panhandler pounced, snatching it and walking quickly down Flatbush Avenue, police said.

The billfold held her ID card for the Brooklyn District Attorney's office, and various credit cards. Although the victim cancelled her accounts within minutes, the thief had already charged a \$76 Metro-Card, police said.

Slasher arrest
A dispute between co-workers at a Butler Street office grew violent on Nov. 25, leaving one man with a cut on his leg and the other with a ticket to jail.

The brouhaha escalated around 1:30 p.m. when one employee of the petroleum storage company pulled a knife

and threatened to cut the other worker, according to police.

The men were separated after a brief scuffle, but when he got home, the 38-year-old victim realized he had been cut in the knee during the fistcuffs.

Police want to question the knife-man, who fled the office after the fight. Police described him as a Hispanic man, 5-foot-2 and 250 pounds, dressed in a black jacket and work boots when he left work.

Gunpoint rob
Chivalry is dead, but at least the husband and wife are alive.

A husband whose wife dropped him off in front of their President Street home while she looked for parking was mugged just as he got to his top step at shortly after 11:30 p.m. on Dec. 2.

The thief slipped his hand into the husband's jacket pocket and when the victim tried to remove it, the robber pulled a gun and said, "I'll

blow your head off."

The man turned over his wallet, but it wasn't enough for this thief, police said. "You have more," he said, then started checking the man's pockets himself.

After stealing the man's tan bag, checkbook, electronic address book, wallet with \$160, his Medicare cards and driver's license, the perp jumped on a bicycle and peddled west

on President Street, toward Seventh Avenue, police said.

Cops are looking for a Hispanic man, 5-foot-7 and 140 pounds. The wife eventually found parking.

Escape foiled

The thief snatched several gadgets that would be perfect in eluding police on a high-speed escape, but there was only one problem: he couldn't get out of the store.

At 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 28, cops arrested a man after he allegedly attacked a security guard who said he saw the man steal a navigation device and a radar detector from a department store in the Atlantic Terminal Mall.

The guard tried to detain the man, but the thief resisted, kicking, flailing his arms and throwing a sharp elbow into the guard's shoulder.

This sent the guard flying into the wall, herniating a disc in his spinal column, police said. Later, with the injured officer ushering the thug away, the suspect head-butted the elevator door and kicked out the glass on a security alarm, causing significant damage, police said.

We want your ideas

The Brooklyn Papers is soliciting opinion pieces on a wide range of topics, including, but not limited to, politics, news, development, real estate, lifestyle trends, humor, and day-to-day life in the best city in the world. If you've got 400 interesting, gripping or fun words in you on any op-ed topic, send them to: neveroom@brooklynpapers.com, subject line "op-ed." Thanks.

Happy from
HOLIDAYS
HARBOR
Fitness

Three Great Gift
Packages To Choose From!

\$249.00-3 Months

\$399.00-6 Months

\$599.00-12 Months

All gifts include:

- ❖ Unlimited guest passes for friends and family (limited 2 p/p)
- ❖ Our exclusive health track training system (\$156 value).
- ❖ Nutritional counseling (\$99 value).
- ❖ \$20 in "Club Bucks" that can be used for shakes, pro shop and tanning.
- ❖ One time personal training offer of \$99 for 3 introductory training sessions.

PARK SLOPE
191 15TH ST. BROOKLYN
T:718.965.6200
OPEN 24HRS

BAY RIDGE
9215 4TH AVE. BROOKLYN
T:718.238.9400
OPEN 24HRS

www.harborfitness.com

NEW LOCATION @ 182 21st STREET

MUSIC TOGETHER

of Greenwood Heights

45 minutes of baby/toddler musical fun each week

CLASSES BEGIN JAN. 6TH. REGISTER NOW!!

Contact us for a free trial class.

718-483-1690

www.musictogetherofgreenwoodheights.com


December invites you to join the
Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture

or just stop in and check us out

Sun., Dec. 11 - Family Winter Festival & Party 11AM Join "Giving and Receiving" Reflection (Party/Style); Bring food, money, or presents for prisoners, soldiers in Iraq, or people displaced by local/global disasters; all ages welcome; get info 4 Festivals/Service Family membership or 3 Sunday monthly kids program: ethicalcin@hotmail.com

Sat., Dec. 17 - CSA FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOLS WINTER CRAFT FAIR 11AM-4PM jewelry, clothing, stained glass etc.; fair tradecrafts Orientation to Ethical Culture: 3rd Sundays 12:30 after 11:00 morning program most Fridays 8pm

GOOD COFFEEHOUSE MUSIC PARLOR Fri., Dec. 16: Angela Lockhart, Akus, Carle Feiner, Prof Louis et al - Community - Involved Spoken Word December 26, 27, 28 5:30PM. Life & Ethics: Kwanzaa Empowerment Series w/local leader panels, celebrations

 Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture
53 Prospect Park West at 2nd St.
(718) 768-2972 • (718) 783-2298 • bsoc.org

HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

Dennis A. Miller Insurance: specializing in coverage for your investment.

New! Coverage for 1-6 family homes

Covering owner & non-owner occupied homes

Call Ellen Pittari today for a free quote! 718-834-9512



LET GO
of your STOMACH PROBLEMS

Are you a woman experiencing any of these symptoms?

- Early fullness while eating
- Post-meal fullness
- Bloating

You may have a digestive condition called DYSPESIA, which may occur during or after eating. Our physicians are conducting a research study for DYSPESIA with the investigational use of an already approved medication and invite you to take part. If you qualify you will receive all study examinations and study medication.

For more information, please call: 718-349-3774

www.belly911.com

Christmas at Plymouth

Rev. David C. Fisher, Senior Minister

Sun., Dec. 11 • 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service and Christmas Pageant
Plymouth Sanctuary, Orange Street

Sun., Dec. 18 • 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Carol Service
Plymouth Sanctuary, Orange Street

Sat., Dec. 24 • 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Plymouth Sanctuary, Orange Street



Gathering in joy and faith

Orange Street, between Hicks and Henry
Brooklyn Heights

www.plymouthchurch.org

Judge: NY immune to Fed gun law

Associated Press

A federal law designed to give the gun industry broad immunity from lawsuits filed by crime victims and violence-plagued cities does not apply to a pending suit by the city of New York, a federal judge has ruled.

If upheld, Judge Jack B. Weinstein's ruling would raise questions about the point of the federal legislation, which was championed by the National Rifle Association and signed into law by President Bush in October.

Weinstein said in a 97-page opinion last Friday that the legislation contained an exception wide enough to allow New York's claim to go forward.

In a victory for gun makers, however, Weinstein also rejected the city's argument that the law was unconstitutional.

"As construed, the act adequately balances congressional concern over the viability of the handgun industry and the

concern of the states and municipalities for the safety of their populations against handgun violence spawned by careless merchandising," Weinstein wrote.

Acknowledging that his decision would be controversial, the judge immediately suspended all action in the trial in

order to allow gun manufacturers to appeal.

NRA spokesman Andrew Arulanandam said he was confident the bulk of the opinion

would be overturned.

"We believe it is now the law of the land that law-abiding manufacturers and retailers will not be held responsible for the independent actions of criminals," Arulanandam said. He added that the NRA had expected to encounter "judicial activism" in the law's early days.

New York is one of several cities suing major U.S. suppliers of handguns, arguing that gun manufacturers violated public nuisance law by fostering a situation that allowed widespread access to illegal firearms.

The suit seeks no money damages, but wants gun makers to more closely police dealers who frequently sell guns later used to commit crimes.

A trial was scheduled to begin on Nov. 28, but looked like it might be delayed by enactment of the federal law, which required that most pending suits seeking to hold gun makers and sellers accountable for crime "shall be immediately dismissed."

The act allowed lawsuits only if a gun maker or seller knowingly violated a law applicable to the sale or marketing of firearms.

Lawrence Greenwald, an attorney for Beretta USA, said Congress meant that exception to apply only to laws specifically regulating guns.

Weinstein interpreted it more broadly.

"If Congress had wanted to limit the predicate exception ... it could easily have done so. It did not," he wrote.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg praised the ruling in a written statement and said the shooting of a New York police officer during a traffic stop earlier in the week is "decisive evidence that the scourge of guns in the city is ever present."

Court: Bag search OK

Associated Press

A federal judge has upheld the NYPD's practice of randomly searching subway riders' bags, saying the intrusion on people's privacy is minimal while the threat of a terrorist bombing is "real and substantial."

The judge cited the testimony of police officials who said the searches might cause terrorists to choose a different target.

"Because the threat of terrorism is great and the consequences of unpreparedness may be catastrophic, it would seem foolish not to rely upon those qualified persons in the best position to know," Berman said.

Gail Donoghue, a city lawyer, called the searches a "life-and-death" necessity and said the city should not wait

The New York Civil Liberties Union had challenged the searches, arguing that riders were being subjected to a pointless and unprecedented invasion of their privacy.

The judge cited the testimony of police officials who said the searches might cause terrorists to choose a different target.

"Because the threat of terrorism is great and the consequences of unpreparedness may be catastrophic, it would seem foolish not to rely upon those qualified persons in the best position to know," Berman said.

for a specific threat or an attack to crack down.

"That kind of complacency is a very dangerous thing," she said. "The threat is immediate. It is real and of extreme concern to those who run the counterterrorism in this city."

During the trial, Deputy Police Commissioner David Cohen said the searches keep terrorists guessing.

"Unpredictability is the enemy of terrorists and the ally of those trying to prevent an attack," said Cohen, who joined the police department after a three-decade career at the CIA analyzing the threat of terrorism.

OUR VIEW, page 15

POLICE BLOTTER...

Continued from page 2

before 5:30 a.m., police said. The burglar then burst through the door, his body barreling into the cash register inside.

The force helped the thug pop open the drawer, which contained \$2,000. Black gloves on the thief's hands prevented police from finding his fingerprints at the store, near South Elliott Place.

Welder stolen

A sticky-fingered handyman snatched a \$7,000 welding machine and other power tools from a Grand Avenue home on Dec. 1, police said.

The victim, 53, discovered his back door broken open around 9:30 p.m. that night. He had left his home, near Gates Avenue, early that morning. But a lot happened while he was gone. A woman told police that three or four strangers broke into the home and stole the gas welder, a circular saw, a Sawzall and a screw gun. She also saw the license plate

number on the grey Ford Escortline van.

Red Hook rob

The trio of thugs who mugged a man on Columbia Street in the pre-dawn darkness of Dec. 1 did his best to keep the victim from talking.

Police said the robbers jumped the man as he walked by the Red Hook houses, between Bush Street and Centre Mail, around 3:50 a.m. One thief

snatched the victim in the face with a mysterious object, splitting the man's upper lip, police said. The three thugs then robbed the man and ran off.

The victim walked to the 76th Precinct stationhouse, on Union Street. But the man's cut and swollen lip made talking difficult, so the victim was unable to give them a detailed description of the robbers. He also couldn't say how much money had been taken.

HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

Denis A. Miller Insurance, specializing in coverage for your investment.

New! Coverage for 1-6 family homes

Covering owner & non-owner occupied homes

Call Ellen Pittman today for a free quote! 718-834-9512

DMU

Win \$50 in Clothes!

Every \$25 purchase gets you in our 2nd anniversary raffle. Win a gift certificate for \$100 of clothing from Luce.

Keep it simple
Keep it gorgeous

CASUAL • FORMAL • FUN

LUCE on the hook boutique

281 Van Brunt Street (bet. Visitation & Pioneer)
Open: Tuesdays - Saturdays • 10-6 PM

luceonthehook@yahoo.com 718.852.1345

33 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



GRAND OPENING SALE

EXTENDED TO MONDAY, 12/19
ALL CLUBS CELEBRATE OUR BROOKLYN HEIGHTS OPENING

\$0 INITIATION-ONLY \$79 PER MONTH*
FOR A 10% MONTH MEMBERSHIP



EASTERN ATHLETIC

PROSPECT PARK
BROOKLYN HEIGHTS
METROTECH
TRIBECA

17 EASTERN PARKWAY AT GRAND ARMY PLAZA
43 CLARK STREET BETWEEN HENRY & HICKS
333 ADAMS STREET AT THE MARRIOTT HOTEL
80 LEONARD STREET BETWEEN B'WAY & CHURCH

718 789 4600
718 625 0500
718 330 0007
212 966 5432

*MEMBERSHIP FEE IS PAID IN FULL IN ADVANCE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP TERM (FROM THE DATE OF JOINING THROUGH 11/1/06). THIS INTRODUCTORY OFFER IS FOR NEW MEMBERS ONLY. PHOTO ID REQUIRED.

Hearing Aid OPEN HOUSE

- **FREE** demonstration of Oticon Synchro & "ELI" featured in Time Magazine (11/21/05) Amazing Inventions of 2005
- **FREE** Remote Control with binaural purchase (Oticon Synchro)
- **FREE** Eli with binaural BTE purchase (Synchro, Tego Pro, Tego models). A \$300.00 value.

Product Alert!

Important Information for Hearing Aid Users.

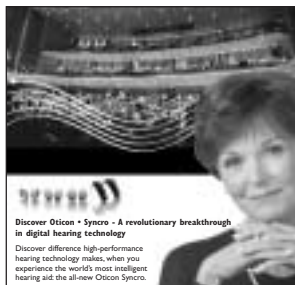
Special Event! Saturdays, Dec. 10 & 17 only!
Call Today (718) 875-3131 / 858-6734

Audiology Affiliates/GHS is proud to offer "ELI", a wireless Bluetooth® device that allows hearing aid users to talk on their mobile phone!

The new ELI (Ear Level Instrument) employs Bluetooth®, the world's most popular connection technology, to wirelessly connect your BTE hearing instruments to mobile phones and a wide variety of Bluetooth-compatible electronics, including computers, high-definition televisions and sound systems.

Finally, I can use my mobile phone again!

My children got me a mobile phone to stay in touch, but it wouldn't work with my hearing aids. Now, with ELI I just press a button and hear all the news!



Sat. Dec. 10 - 9am-4pm
Sat. Dec. 17 - 9am-1pm
Saturday hours by appt only

**Audiology Affiliates/
GHS**
"Your Preferred Union Provider"

142 Joralemon St. #6A

(718) 875-3131

(718) 858-6734

Discover Oticon • Synchro • A revolutionary breakthrough in digital hearing technology
Discover difference high-performance hearing technology makes, when you experience the world's most intelligent hearing aid the all-new Oticon Synchro.

7th Avenue Art Supplies

Supplies for the Fine Artist, Graphic Artist, Student and Children

376 7th Ave. (bet. 11th & 12th Sts.)

369-4969

DECEMBER SPECIAL

3 Personal Fitness Sessions \$99

- Looking to improve your health?
- Lose Weight? Tone muscle?
- We can help you attain your Fitness Goals!

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!

MCS SPECIALIZED

Private Fitness

mcssfitness.com

409A - 16th St. (718) 768-8986
(bet. 8th Ave. & Prospect Park West)

A Brooklyn Barbeque Joint

Blues, Brews & Barbeque! Eat-In or Take-Out

20 Bottles, 5 Taps, 20 Bottled Beers

689 6th Ave. (at 20th St.) 718-499-4872

Open: M-F, 3-11pm; Sat-Sun, 12-11pm • brooklynbarbq.com

Judge: NY immune to NRA-friendly gun laws

Associated Press

A federal law designed to give the gun industry broad immunity from lawsuits filed by crime victims and violence-plagued cities does not apply to a pending suit by the city of New York, a federal judge has ruled.

If upheld, Judge Jack B. Weinstein's ruling would raise questions about the point of the federal legislation, which was championed by the National Rifle Association and signed into law by President Bush in October.

Weinstein said in a 97-page opinion last Friday that the legislation contained an exception wide enough to allow New York's claim to go forward.

In a victory for gun makers, however, Weinstein also rejected the city's argument that the law was unconstitutional.

"As construed, the act adequately balances congressional concern over the viability of the handgun industry and the concern of the states and municipalities for the safety of their populations against handgun violence spawned by careless merchandising," Weinstein wrote.

Acknowledging that his decision would be controversial, the judge immediately suspended all action in the trial in order to allow gun manufacturers to appeal.

NRA spokesman Andrew Arulanandam said he was confident the bulk of the opinion would be overturned.

"We believe it is now the law of the land that law-abiding manufacturers and retailers will not be held responsible for the independent actions of criminals," Arulanandam said.

He added that the NRA had expected to encounter "judicial activism" in the law's early days.

New York is one of several cities suing major U.S. suppliers of handguns, arguing that gun manufacturers violated

public nuisance law by fostering a situation that allowed widespread access to illegal firearms.

The suit seeks no money damages, but wants gun makers to more closely police dealers who frequently sell guns later used to commit crimes.

A trial was scheduled to begin on Nov. 28, but looked like it might be derailed by enactment of the federal law, which required that most pending suits seeking to hold gun makers and sellers accountable for

crime "shall be immediately dismissed."

The act allowed lawsuits only if a gun maker or seller knowingly violated a law applicable to the sale or marketing of firearms.

Lawrence Greenwald, an attorney for Beretta USA, said Congress meant that exception to apply only to laws specifically regulating guns.

Weinstein interpreted it more broadly.

"If Congress had wanted to limit the predicate exception, it could easily have done so. It

did not," he wrote.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg praised the ruling in a written statement and said the shooting of a New York police officer during a traffic stop earlier in the week is "deadly evidence that the scourge of guns in the city is ever-present."

"Our lawsuit is designed and intended to stop this scourge," Bloomberg said. "With the gun industry completely unwilling to take reasonable steps to control their own dealers, the city has no course but to go to the courts."

Court OKs search of bags in subway

Associated Press

A federal judge has upheld the NYPD's practice of randomly searching subway riders' bags, saying the intrusion on people's privacy is minimal while the threat of a terrorist bombing is "real and substantial."

Police tightened security in the nation's largest subway system in July after the deadly terrorist attacks in London's underground.

"The risk of a terrorist bombing of New York City's subway system is real and substantial," U.S. District Judge Richard M. Berman said in his ruling last Friday.

The New York Civil Liberties Union had challenged the searches, arguing that riders were being subjected to a pointless and unprecedented invasion of their privacy.

The judge cited the testimony of police officials who said the searches might cause terrorists to choose a different target.

"Because the threat of terrorism is great and the consequences of unpreparedness may be catastrophic, it would seem foolish not to rely upon those qualified persons in the best position to know," Berman said.

Gail Donoghue, a city lawyer, called the searches a "life-and-death" necessity and said the city should not wait for a specific threat or an attack to crack down.

"That kind of complacency is a very dangerous thing," she said. "The threat is immediate. It is real and of extreme concern to those who run the counterterrorism in this city."

During the trial, Deputy Police Commissioner David Cohen said the searches keep terrorists guessing.

"Unpredictability is the enemy of terrorists and the ally of those trying to prevent an attack," said Cohen, who joined the police department after a three-decade career at the CIA analyzing the threat of terrorism.

OUR VIEW, page 15

PAW-ty cakes

And other freshly baked dog treats

PLUS: holistic remedies, holistic pet foods, aromatherapy, canine couture and more...

Buttercup's PAW-tisserie
All Natural Dog Bakery

63 5th Ave (St. Marks)
(718) 399-2228

open 11am-8pm 7 days a week
www.buttercupspaw.com •

In-home Dog Training

Dedicated to educating your dog and you!

At Confident K-9 Education, you and your companion will receive the best guidance and education available in Brooklyn. Certified Dog Trainer Kimberly Dillon will become your dog's teacher, mentor and friend through positive reinforcement training.

Confident K-9 Education
718-704-6821
www.confidentk9education.com

Your dog's behavioral success depends on you...
Train them now / don't blame them later!

Russ, the tax man, formerly of Tax World

can now be reached at
(917) 544-4015

Tax Preparation, Business Accounting, Payroll Services

Russ Kolbert, E.A. Enrolled Agent
RussKolbert@yahoo.com

"Medicare Prescription Plan: Unraveling the Mystery"

A free presentation at Sunrise at Sheepshead Bay

Medicare D differs from Medicare A and B: private insurance companies offer the benefit and you sign up for this service with your provider. The government sets a minimum standard for what this insurance must cover—and private insurers use that as a starting point when offering their coverage. Please join us for an explanation of the new Medicare Prescription Plan and find out how it works with other healthcare coverage.

Sunrise Senior Living is committed to furthering the knowledge of senior living topics through events and seminars designed to help and inform seniors and their caregivers.

EVENT DETAILS

"Medicare Prescription Plan: Unraveling the Mystery"

by Robin Harvey

of Aetna Insurance Company

Saturday, December 17

1:00pm

RSVP requested but not required

Call 718-616-1850

for more information



Sunrise at Sheepshead Bay • 718-616-1850

2211 Emmons Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11235

For more information and a FREE online newsletter, visit www.sunriseseniorliving.com

33 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



GRAND OPENING SALE

EXTENDED TO MONDAY, 12/19
ALL CLUBS CELEBRATE OUR BROOKLYN HEIGHTS OPENING

\$0 INITIATION-ONLY \$79 PER MONTH*
FOR A 10% MONTH MEMBERSHIP



EASTERN ATHLETIC

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|
| PROSPECT PARK | 17 EASTERN PARKWAY AT GRAND ARMY PLAZA | 718 789 4600 |
| BROOKLYN HEIGHTS | 43 CLARK STREET BETWEEN HENRY & HICKS | 718 625 0500 |
| METROTECH | 333 ADAMS STREET AT THE MARRIOTT HOTEL | 718 330 0007 |
| TRIBECA | 80 LEONARD STREET BETWEEN B'WAY & CHURCH | 212 966 5432 |

*MEMBERSHIP FEE IS PAID IN FULL IN ADVANCE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP TERM (FROM THE DATE OF JOINING THROUGH 11/1/06). THIS INTRODUCTORY OFFER IS FOR NEW MEMBERS ONLY. PHOTO IS REQUIRED.

To Our Riders and Our Union Brothers and Sisters in Public Service from NYC Transit Workers



Our contract deadline with the MTA, Thursday December 15, is fast approaching. We need your understanding and support.

Do not be fooled or misled by the MTA. Not even if they try to bribe you with conveniently timed discount fares

Don't forget their record and their lies. They lied about their books, keeping **two** sets of them. They raised fares in order to maintain service levels, so they said. But once they jacked up fares by a whopping 33%, they then started **cutting** service on buses and on trains, yielding longer waits, less service, dirtier trains, dirtier stations and dirtier buses.

Now the MTA has a surplus. \$1.04 billion! They have decided to use the surplus to hand out token bribes instead of shelving their plans to raise your fares every two years. Why? They want to establish the rule – **they play . . . you pay!**

The MTA is trying desperately to burn the surplus. **They have an urge to splurge.** Maybe a new headquarters! Maybe a platform over the West side rail yards! Maybe give the money to security contractors . . . even though there is \$600 million of unspent security money sitting in a room in Albany! No way will they consider using it to relieve your pain, let alone our pain!

We carry more riders than any transportation system in America, **and we do it using fewer workers per passenger than any other system.** This takes a toll on us. The MTA pays well below the national average for our members' health benefits. But we suffer more, get sick and sicker, get killed or die more than the average in the city, the state, the country!

Now, in these negotiations they want us to pay while they play. The surplus will not last forever, they say, so let's negotiate like there is a deficit. But if the fiscal situation years down the road is uncertain, there are reasons why. Over the years the state has cut its contribution to mass transit. The city too has reduced its level of real support. Why should we pay as a result?



The MTA wants us to pay by sacrificing our unborn and our retirees. **We will not.** The MTA wants us to surrender our working conditions and protections that we fought for and earned over decades of struggle. **We will not.**

Instead, we seek to improve our working conditions and our lives. Our bus operators, train crews and station agents develop long-term medical problems because of the conditions they work in. Often, they don't even get a chance to relieve themselves. We cannot tolerate this any longer.

Please stand by us. We will do everything we can to achieve a fair settlement by December 15. But we will not accept working without a contract!

**A message from the 38,000 Men and Women of
Transport Workers Union Local 100
We Move New York**





(718) 834-9350

The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

December 10, 2005

Setting the scene

Director Stroman on shooting 'The Producers' at Steiner Studios

By Karen Butler
for The Brooklyn Papers

Director Susan Stroman says there are advantages to filming her movie musical version of Mel Brooks's "The Producers" at Steiner Studios before work on the brand-new Brooklyn facility was even complete.

"It was great out there and the Steiner people were wonderful," Stroman told GO Brooklyn in Manhattan recently. "It was 90 percent done and I thought, 'Maybe the toilets aren't going to work.' But, in fact, it all was there and they kept working as we were shooting."

"But because things weren't totally done, I was able to say: 'I need a dance studio over here. I need a warm-up room.' So, we shaped it, and we shaped it for a musical. So now any musical movie can move in there and be fine."

The freshman filmmaker and five-time Tony Award-winning director and choreographer insists the production suffered none of the time-consuming or expensive snafus one might imagine plaguing the first major project shot in a new studio.

"Everything worked!" Stroman declared. "To be able to, in the same day, shoot a scene in Rio and then shoot a scene in a jail cell was great."

"It was important to do this movie in New York. The movie is authentically New York, even in its talent. The accounts are all Broadway folk. The girls are all accomplished Broadway dancers. Even in crowd scenes, I have a couple of Tony Award winners."

"We're a Broadway story!" the 79-year-old Brooks is quoted saying in production notes for the film. "It would have been heart-breaking not to shoot this movie in New York. And here we are in Brooklyn, only 11 and a half blocks from where I was born and bred. Mostly bred. We were so poor, the neighbors had to give birth to me." [Brooks, who is grieving over the death of his wife Anne Bancroft, was not available for interviews.]

Although Steiner is a new, state-of-the-art, 100,000-square-foot facility, "The Producers" is not the first movie musical shot on the site of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The first was the 1949 film, "On the Town," the opening scenes of which were filmed on the lot. The filmmakers of "The Producers" thought their movie, which is set in 1959 New York City, was the ideal choice to continue the tradition.

"Mark Friedberg, my wonderful production designer, built a 44th Street out there that went from Broadway to the river and it had Sand's and the Shubert Alley. And the St. James Theater and Shubert Theater and to walk down those streets, I was like Gene Kelly," recalled Stroman. "It was a sound-stage like MGM."

Based on the record-breaking, Tony Award-winning musical, which was itself inspired by Brooks's Oscar-winning 1968 film of the same name, "The Producers" is the comic story of how meek and unhappy accountant Leo Bloom and washed-up, but tenacious theater producer Max Bialystock conspire to swindle investors out of \$2 million by staging the biggest flop in Broadway history — a surefire loser that would close quickly and allow the pair to keep the money left over from the production.

When Bialystock and Bloom discover



Embracing Brooklyn: The movie adaptation of the Broadway musical "The Producers," which stars Uma Thurman as Ulla Svastrom and Matthew Broderick as Leo Bloom (above), was shot in the Brooklyn Navy Yard's Steiner Studios. Tony Award-winning Susan Stroman (right) directed both the film and stage versions.



"Springtime for Hitler — A Gay Rump with Adolf and Eva in Berchtesgarden," written by the insane, Fuhrer-worshipping playwright, Franz Liebkind, they assume they've found their show. By hiring Roger DeBris, the worst director in New York, and his common-law assistant, Carmen Ghia, to stage the show, how could they miss?

Stage to screen

Stroman's film uses many of the original stars of the Broadway show in the roles they created. Nathan Lane reprises his role of Bialystock; Matthew Broderick plays Bloom; Gary Beach plays Roger DeBris; and Roger Bart plays Carmen Ghia. New additions to the cast include film actress Uma Thurman, as Ulla, the producers' stunning Swedish secretary/chorus girl, and "Saturday Night Live"

alum Will Ferrell plays the deranged Liebkind.

Stroman believes "The Producers" has endured for so long, in so many forms because, "It is a buddy movie, but everybody in this musical comes in and states their wants and dreams... At the end of the musical, it is delivered, and that is what satisfies the audience."

"Mel Brooks's characters are working-class people that have these wants and dreams," the 51-year-old Delaware native continued. "And I think that has an accessibility that is appealing. Mel says he writes for the people, and I think people see themselves in these roles, although these are very eccentric characters."

Stroman says both she and Brooks felt it was important to make a film version of the

Broadway show, not only to preserve the extraordinary performances of its stars, but also to make it available in a format that is accessible for audiences who can't afford tickets to the stage show or who don't have the means to watch it in the Big Apple.

"[Brooks] absolutely has that sensibility. He wanted someone in Ohio, who is never going to make it to New York, to see the performance of Nathan and Matthew and to hear Mel Brooks's lyrics and music and thank God he wants to do that," Stroman said.

Brooks still has it

A renowned director, producer, writer and actor in his own right, Brooks concentrated on writing the show, and later the movie, and honing his unique brand of comedy, entrusting Stroman, who also directed and choreographed the stage musical, to handle most of the other details.

"When we created the musical, I think what was great for Mel was he didn't have to worry about anything," Stroman explained. "He... just had to worry about the comedy. And he wrote and wrote and wrote these wonderful lyrics, and it just gave him the freedom to be this incredible writer, and that is why it is so chock full of comedy."

"And when we got to the movie, Mel had his producer hat on. He was there to say, 'You can have whatever you want, just don't spend a penny.' He would say: 'Stro, stop asking for pie a la mode. Just ask for the pie.'"

So, how hard was it to switch gears and turn a stage musical based on a non-musical movie into a movie musical? Not so hard, Stroman swears. Actually, she says "The Producers" was the perfect project for her to cut her teeth on, since it required so many of the same skills she used in directing stage productions. The fact that many of her actors also had considerable film experience and knew how to pull back and not play to the balcony as they do in theater, also helped, she admits.

"If a [theater] audience is really enjoying a [performance], the actor is going to milk it," said Stroman. "If the audience is not responsive, they are going to drive that show and get home. They are in charge of how fast or slow that show goes."

"But in film, the director is totally in charge. The director is the only one with all the way through the year, for the entire film. I think the editing process was my favorite."

Working through tears

Despite the joy and success "The Producers" has brought to all involved, both Brooks and Stroman suffered personal tragedies during the course of creating the stage musical and new film. Stroman's husband, musical and film director Mike Ockrent, died of leukemia shortly after she met Brooks, while Brooks' beloved wife, Bancroft, died of uterine cancer just as the film was being edited.

"I know everything he is going through," Stroman confided. "I speak to him almost every day. He is grieving, and it is hard for him to be out in crowds. He misses her so. They were inseparable. We are very close and it is strange that this kind of thing would happen. The material of 'The Producers' is a life raft. It was when I started with it and now it is for him."

Although Brooks is avoiding the limelight these days, Stroman emphasizes he is still working hard on new comic projects.

"We're talking about making 'Young Frankenstein' into a musical," Stroman revealed. "So much so, that Mel has written, like, 10 new songs. It's good to have a creative outlet. When I've been going out to Los Angeles for different press trips, we've gotten together and worked on little sections of the musical. It's rich. It's a wonderful story. But I think that's a good year-and-a-half away."

"The Producers," directed by Susan Stroman, opens in limited release on Dec. 16 and nationwide on Dec. 25.

SHOPPING

Craftastic day

If the term "craft fair" conjures in your mind two tables of stained glass ornaments and a creepy doll parts tent, you might rethink your presumptions. Craft fair meets holiday party as "Bust" magazine hosts a raucous, 12-hour "Holiday Craftacular" in Greenpoint on Saturday, Dec. 17.

The organizers promise an entire afternoon and evening of original — and in some cases highly unusual — handcrafted clothes and accessories made by over 80 visiting and local crafters, all accompanied by booze, DJs and dancing.

"Most of the vendors will be these really talented crafters that mostly make their products in their home," says "Bust" marketing coordinator Sheila Burel.

Among the rare gift items will be colorful, crocheted cupcake tree ornaments (how did they do that?!); glittery yarmulke bras (it's for real — see it to believe it); original iPod cozies by Becky Lee (pictured, top), which are the only way to make an iPod original at this point; "hip" holiday stockings; jewelry; beauty products; silk-screened T-shirts and handbags. Additional handmade goods for sale include Hodge Podge's vintage-inspired doggie sweaters (pictured, center), and My Imaginary Boyfriend's "Christmas Robot" ornament (pictured, left).

DJ Rekha, who spins at Manhattan club S.O.B.'s well-attended Basement Bangra parties, will provide the music — along with DJ Shakey, Dirty Jean, Peppermintwist and Jaime Kozzy — for your enjoyment on the dance floor.

Throughout the day, authors will be present for book signings, including Boerum Hill's own Ayun Halliday ("No Touch Monkey!"), and New York's own Dazzle Dancers will go "totally nuts," says Burel, in their nearly made disco dance performance.

"Holiday Craftacular" will be held from noon to midnight on Dec. 17 at Warsaw (261 Driggs Ave., at Eckford in Greenpoint).

DJ Rekha is expected to spin from 9 pm to 10:30 pm. The first 1,000 shoppers to show up get a free gift. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.bust.com/craftacular.

— Lee Cabot Walker

EVENT

Getting lit

If you happen to get an earful of soul-stirring children's voices raised in song while meandering through Downtown Brooklyn on Monday, Dec. 12, follow the sound to the source and enjoy the free, live performance by the Grammy Award-winning Brooklyn Youth Chorus. The group will perform a program of songs and carols for that evening's Christmas tree lighting ceremony at Brooklyn Borough Hall Plaza.

Borough President Marty Markowitz invites all Brooklynites to come and see the lighting of the sensational 35-foot balsam fir tree, decorated by the staff of New York City's Department of Parks and Recreation.

Also making an appearance at the tree lighting will be Santa Claus and the Brooklyn College Brass Ensemble.

The façade of Borough Hall and its cupola will be transformed into a dramatic backdrop for the tree when it is illuminated with the building's new, state-of-the-art, computer-generated architectural lighting system, which is making its debut on Monday.

The Christmas tree lighting festivities will begin at 5:30 pm on Dec. 12 at the Brooklyn Borough Hall Plaza (209 Joralemon St. between Court and Adams streets). The event is free of charge. For more information, visit www.brooklyn-usa.org.

— Monserrat Cabral

Shop Handcrafts for the Holidays

15% off with this ad
Expires 12/25/05

Latin American folk art, home furnishings, jewelry, music and greeting cards.

Patris Latin American Folk Art
167 Fifth Avenue
718.857.9091
Hours: 12-6
Times through Sun.
www.patris.com

\$15 Gift Certificate
Good towards any purchase of \$50 or more with ad only.
One per table. Not valid with other offers.

Amelia
Ristorante
Superb Italian Cuisine

8305 Third Ave. • (718) 680-4650

Outdoor Dining • Valet Parking
Reservations Recommended • Closed Mondays

Classical Music Concert

JUILLIARD ENSEMBLE
at BRIC
Corner of 4th Avenue & 81st Street
Subway: R Train, 77th Street
Sunday, December 18th
at 3:00pm

Working Dinner Program
works by Bach, Haydn, Schubert, Mozart, Debussy and others.

55 at the door
Call the Office in reserve: Tel: (718) 816-3181

Beautiful **\$7.99 AND UP!**

Christmas TREES
WHOLESALE & RETAIL

Also wreaths, garlands, ornaments & lights

American Tree
263 Third Avenue
(Bet. President & Union)
8am-10pm
(718) 614-1002
10% discount with this ad

FREE GIFT WITH ANY TREE PURCHASE!

BROOKLYN

Neighborhood Dining Guide

This week: PARK SLOPE'S FIFTH AVENUE

Blue Ribbon Brooklyn

280 Fifth Ave. at First Street, (718) 840-0404
(AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$12-\$20
Blue Ribbon Brooklyn features wines from around the world and offers an extensive raw bar. The eclectic menu includes a vast array of choices, from nutro ball soup, escargot bourguignon and garlic shrimp and chorizo for appetizers, to duck confit with arugula and tomato salad, hanger steak with onion rings, and lobster and corn-on-the-cob for entrees. Blue Ribbon Brooklyn opens at 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and stays open as late as 4 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Reservations accepted for 5-10 people. Open daily.

Blue Ribbon Sushi

278 Fifth Ave. at First Street, (718) 840-0408
(MC, Visa) Average price per person: \$35
If it's late and you're craving a spicy tuna roll, head to Blue Ribbon Sushi, the latest addition to the culinary empire of brothers Bruce and Eric Bromberg. (They also own Blue Ribbon locations in Manhattan and Brooklyn, another sushi restaurant by the same name in Manhattan, and Blue Ribbon Bakery.) There's an extensive selection of melt-in-your-mouth fish from the Atlantic and Pacific, as well as a huge sake list. The restaurant boasts more space than its Manhattan sushi cousin and shorter lines than its near-door bistro. Open daily. Reservations are not accepted.

Coco Roco Restaurant

392 Fifth Ave. at Sixth Street, (718) 965-3376
(AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$4.95-\$15.95
Owner Fernando Martin boasts that his Peruvian restaurant Coco Roco has the best rotisserie chicken in Brooklyn. This casual family restaurant attracts all kinds of diners—from cozy couples to large parties. Their tropical Peruvian cocktails will keep you coming back. There's a happy hour Monday through Friday, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., and their brunch menu is also available from noon to 3 p.m. on weekends. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Delivery available.

Gocotte

327 Fifth Ave. at Fourth Street, (718) 632-6848
(MC, Visa) Entrees: \$12-\$23
Indulge in traditional French-American fare served up by Christine and Bill Small, who also own Fort Greene's beloved Lou Lou Bistro. Gocotte features French classics including bouillabaisse (fish stew), as well as seasonally inspired dishes. Now on the menu is a baked apple stuffed with pork "rilettes" served with a potato caramelized "gallette." In Calvados sauce, cauliflower soup with caramelized apples and sea urchin. Chef Adam Ross also offers oysters and white, grilled fish-of-the-day. Rough-hewn wooden tables and wall scones round out the prosperous farmhouse atmosphere, adding to Gocotte's romantic charm. On weekends, enjoy a brunch of speciality omelets and homemade pastries from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dinner served daily at 5:30 p.m. Kids, ages 10 and younger, eat free on Mondays; entrees are 2-for-1 on Tuesdays, and there is no corkage fee on Wednesdays. Outdoor dining in the sidewalk cafe.

Convivium Osteria

68 Fifth Ave. at St. Marks Avenue, (718) 857-1833 (AmEx) Entrees: \$13-\$24
Since 2003, Convivium Osteria has offered Park Slope a welcoming, rustic dining room with its ochre-toned walls and rough-hewn tables—some communal. Chef and owner Carlo Pula has slipped around the Mediterranean to combine the flavors of Spain, Portugal and Italy on the Convivium Osteria menu. Among the tapes highlights are the seafood tapes for two, Vermont quails with figs, and "boquerones" (pickled anchovies). Try the "seba-da," a Sardinian dessert featuring ravioli filled with pecorino cheese, fried and topped with bitter honey. Open daily for dinner. Outdoor garden seating available.

Jack's

519 Fifth Ave. at 13th Street, (718) 965-8675
(AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$8-\$14
Since December 2000, chef Hector Gonzalez has

★ = Full review available at

Brooklyn
papers.com

Abbreviation Key: AmEx= American Express, DC= Diner's Club, Disc= Discover Card, MC= MasterCard, Visa= Visa Card



The white beans and smoked salmon appetizer at Peperoncino.

been cooking comfort food classics served in a setting that makes diners feel at home. The menu includes American, Mexican and Italian cuisines—crab cakes, tilapia with rice pilaf served with sautéed spinach, shrimp linguine in tomato sauce with mushrooms, yellow peppers and rum—and decadent desserts like the three chocolate caramel mousse cake. Owned by Hector's brother Mauro Gonzalez, Jack's also offers daily specials and live country music on Sundays. Brunch is served on weekends, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Mondays. Open Tuesday through Sunday for lunch and dinner.

Long Tan

196 Fifth Ave. at Union Street, (718) 622-8444
www.longtan.com (MC, Visa) Entrees: \$8-\$16
Long Tan is a friendly and relaxed Thai restaurant where comfy cushions in vibrant colors line an open, white dining room dotted with hanging paper lanterns. A large window overlooks a garden area with outdoor seating. For appetizers, Long Tan offers "samurai-spiked" crab cakes with Asian gamelan. Other appetizers include the pad Thai spring roll salad and a mini-Peking crispy duck bun. For entrees, the restaurant's signature dishes include a yellow curry of butternut squash, three-flavored spaghetti, and duck with tamarind sauce.

At Long Tan's red bar, sassy cocktails make drinking easy. Long Tan's red bar, sassy cocktails make drinking easy. Long Tan's red bar, sassy cocktails make drinking easy.

Peperoncino

72 Fifth Ave. at St. Mark's Place, (718) 638-4760
(Cash only) Entrees: \$10-\$20
Since 2004, Peperoncino owner Nino Gagliardi has been serving 18 varieties of thin-crust pies, lightly topped with a simple tomato sauce and cooked in his wood-burning oven at this Neapolitan-style restaurant. The cheese is special, too, instead of the usual buffalo mozzarella, cow-milk mozzarella is used, adding a taste that GO Brooklyn critic Tina Barry called clean and fresh. Chef Daniela Gori cooks up appetizers like the tender white beans with chunks of rare, smoked salmon and thin slices of red onion tossed in a tart lemon dressing. The Cornish game hen with sea salt and rosemary is just one of the outstanding entrees, according to Barry. Open daily for dinner, and for brunch on weekends, from noon to 3 p.m.

Tempo Restaurant and Wine Bar

256 Fifth Ave. at Carroll Street, (718) 636-2020
www.temporestaurant.com (AmEx, DC, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$17-\$30
Boasting cream-colored stucco walls and crushed silk draperies, Tempo is a sophisticated yet comfortable restaurant perfect for romantic tête-à-têtes and family dinners alike. Open since September 2004, chef-proprietor Michael Fiore orchestrates the creations coming from his kitchen, while co-owners Michael Elliott and Robert Amato oversee all aspects of dining room service.

Whether you're enjoying the bar or two dining rooms, the offerings on the Mediterranean-inspired American menu include "prime Black Angus rib-eye steak for two," which has sautéed cipollini onions and mushrooms, recommended by Amato. For dessert, sample the house-made sorbets and gelatos, or go for the sticky date and toffee pudding served with creme fraiche and warm toffee sauce. Tempo offers about 200 wines from around the world, a dozen of which are available by the "quarter" (a third of the bottle)—making it more affordable for diners to order a different wine with each course.

Tempo is open daily for dinner. Tempo Presto's takeout counter is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on weekends.

Editor's note: These are a sampling of restaurants in the neighborhood. The list rotates, and it is not comprehensive. For more restaurants, go to www.brooklynpapers.com on the Web. If your restaurant is not listed and you would like it to be, please contact GO Brooklyn Editor Lisa Curtis via e-mail at Curtis@Brooklynpapers.com.

Viva Olea

Duo's third restaurant charms with pan-Mediterranean menu

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

Johannes Sanzin and Chelsea Altman have struck again. The co-owners of Fort Greene's Pequena, a small, casual Mexican eatery, and Clinton Hill's Maggie Brown, another casual bar and American bistro, have joined with new partner Dan DiMartino to open their third Brooklyn restaurant, Olea. Their newest addition to Fort Greene is a gorgeous, pan-Mediterranean taverna and raw bar with a far-reaching menu that works.

Housed in the former A Table Space, Olea, which opened in September, features a moody room with dark wood beams running across the ceiling. The floor is paved with terra cotta tiles, and instead of fabric-covered banquettes, there are surprisingly comfortable wooden benches along the walls.

However, it's the windows that make lingering in Olea (Latin for "olive") so rewarding. The entire front of the space is floor-to-ceiling glass bordered with tiny sparkling glass in a dusty jade color. The windows frame leafy Lafayette Avenue, affording diners an ideal perch for people-watching.

In the kitchen is Gary Moran, late of Relish in Williamsburg, and before that Manhattan's Bouley and Cicerella. Moran's menu rounds the Mediterranean, dipping into Greece, Italy and the Middle East. He'll mix Italian risotto with Greek cheese; toast a salad with pomegranate juice-laced vinaigrette and sprinkle pine nuts over the top; and pair a crisp chicken breast with Moroccan vegetables, Israeli

couscous and a dab of orange-carrot jam. A fried calamari, mussels and lemon sauce. Minor disappointments occur during a meal, but even then, Moran should be applauded for taking a few risks in the kitchen.

To begin, there's a falafel-crusted artichoke hearts. The falafel coating is crisp but too heavy, making for less-than-delicate eating. They're accompanied by a rich Turkish eggplant salad



Loving 'olive' it: Olea chef Gary Moran (above) ensures a happy ending with his dessert, "due panna cotta" (right), two ramblings of the Italian custard. "Chocolate Saffron" (front) is topped with candied orange peel while "Vanilla Rosemary" is sprinkled with almond pralines.

that is smoky, thanks to their charring on the grill, and given a hint of sweet and sour flavoring with pomegranate molasses. I can't imagine tasting a better version of the salad than Moran's.

On the plate are squares of pan-roasted "Halloumi," a slightly salty Greek cheese similar to feta, that takes on a nutty taste when it's roasted. There's also a bit of tahini sauce and sautéed spinach too, like most of what I sampled, all the components harmonize, and the appearance of the dish looks simple, not cluttered.

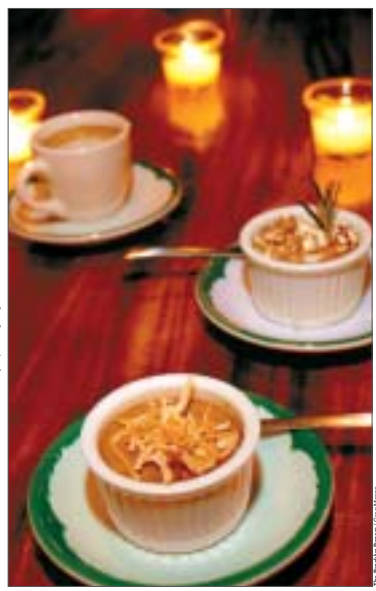
The batter used in the "piccolo fritto," a big plate of fried calamari, mussels and lemon sauce with fresh sea leaves, could be lighter, but I'd order the dish again in a second. Have you tried a fried mussel? They're delectable. Especially when they're consumed with a chewy, tart slice of lemon and swiped through "agrodolce," a sweet and sour syrup comprised of reduced red wine vinegar, sugar and Turkish pepper sauce

made with red chili peppers.

Risotto can be a hit-or-miss affair, too often rendered into gummy rice. At Olea, the grains are just right: tender yet not mushy. Moran uses a rich, seafood stock as the dish's base, then stews the mix with sweet shrimp, and adds an unexpected touch: bits of creamy feta cheese that melt into the grains, adding a touch of nuttiness.

"Chermoula," the Moroccan blend of coriander, garlic, paprika, lemon juice and olive oil, lends heat to a large fillet of moist, wild salmon, and forms a crisp crust around the fish. Moran accompanies it with chunks of slow-roasted beets and fried beet leaves. The plate is given a bright, citrus note with slices of roasted orange and a splash of coriander-caraway vinaigrette. Although there are a lot of contrasting flavors, textures and spices going on, the dish doesn't come out of control.

The dessert menu features five dishes that do a good—if not wonderful



Two ramblings of the Italian custard. "Chocolate Saffron" (front) is topped with candied orange peel while "Vanilla Rosemary" is sprinkled with almond pralines.

— job of complementing the meal. The "due panna cotta"—two ramblings of the custard—were each just right: the vanilla was subtly enhanced with fresh rosemary and the chocolate, topped with slivers of candied orange peel, was given a slightly bitter note with a hint of saffron.

The problem with the roasted fruit with spice bread and creme fraiche was its presentation. A large bowl is filled with pear halves that sit atop spiced bread and are doused with creme fraiche. It's too clumsy looking and not exciting enough to work as dessert, but I wouldn't mind half of it served with coffee for breakfast.

I'm looking forward to sitting in Olea's dining room and watching the snow fall, the leaves turn green again, and out this summer, sitting at one of the outdoor tables beside the cafe. If I'm feeling really loving toward my companion, I may even share my fried mussels.

The dessert menu features five dishes that do a good—if not wonderful

He'll Wu you

Finding a decent Thai restaurant in the neighborhoods surrounding Mai, the new Southeast Asian eatery that borders Fort Greene and Park Slope, is as simple as scoring a bowl of French onion soup in Park Slope. Satisfying a craving for Indonesian cuisine or the complex flavors of Malaysia is another story. That is, until Mai opened on Atlantic Avenue in September.

Stephene Bhai's bright yellow awning, you'll find chef Daniel Wu (pictured), who co-owned Jefferson and the Cafe Ascan in Manhattan, spinning out a spirited menu that traverses Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia.

Sitting in the modern, brick-walled space atop wooden banquettes strewn with brightly colored pillows, diners can begin a meal by dipping pan-seared scallop dumplings into soy, ginger and lime sauce. Follow the appetizer with an entree of whole grilled sea bass wrapped in a banana leaf and served with a spicy chili and fish sauce. If poultry is their pleasure, Wu sautes half a duck with shiitake mushrooms and splashes it with a light, ginger-spiked wine sauce.

In the summer, a garden with a fountain makes an ideal spot to sip sake and enjoy the restaurant's refreshing coconut and lime cocktail.

Mai (497 Atlantic Ave. between Third Avenue and Nevins Street in Boerum Hill) accepts cash only. Entrees: \$9-\$15.50. The restaurant serves lunch and dinner every day. For reservations, call (718) 797-3880.

— Tina Barry

BRICK OVEN PIZZA comes to Park Slope!

• Orrechetti with Broccoli Rabe & Sausage
• Chicken Eggplant • Josephine's Eggplant Parmesan
• Homemade Manicotti • Sunday's Sausage

426 A 7th Ave.
Tel: (718) 369-8315
Mon-Fri: 12-11pm • Sat-Sun: 12-mid

UNIQUE MEXICAN CUISINE

FREE DELIVERY \$10 minimum

Happy Hour Everyday
House Margaritas 4-7pm

LUNCH SPECIALS

Weekend Brunch
Sat & Sun, 11-3:30pm
www.cantinaanddope.com

Live Entertainment Every Saturday

Canina
MEXICAN BAR & RESTAURANT

494 4th Ave. (at 12th St.) • 718-369-5850

Seniors: 15% Discount
every Tuesday night (dine-in only)

UCUEE
D.E.L.C.I.O.U.S.
Chinese Cuisine & Vegetarian Nutrition

• Fast Free Delivery
• Open 7 Days a Week
• Party Orders Welcome

We Only Use Vegetable Oil
Natural Cooking and Fresh Vegetables

162 Montague Street
Brooklyn Heights
(718) 522-5565/66
Tel: (718) 522-1208 (24hrs)
Mon - Thurs: 11:30am - 10:00pm
Fri - Sat: 11:30am - 11:00pm
Sunday: 2:00pm - 10:00pm

FREE \$7.00 min.

Brooklyn Heights is PIG'N OUT!

20% OFF ENTIRE MENU
Monday-Friday: 11am to 4pm

60 Henry St.
(btw. Orange & Green) Blk 115
(718) 522-5547
Tel: (718) 522-4894
Mon-Sat: 11am-11pm; Sun: 11am-9pm

FREE DELIVERY to DUMBO, Brooklyn Heights and Metrotech

SPARTAN SOUVLAKI

GREEK SPECIALTIES
"Village Style Menu"

Fast Free Delivery
Open 7 Days a Week

Private Party Room

6820 8th Avenue
(718) 748-5838

Grandma Alotta's ITALIAN KITCHEN

"Let us do the cooking"

Authentic Home-Cooked Meals by Grandma Rosemarie

CORPORATE & PRIVATE CATERING
OUR SPECIALTY

8407 3rd Ave. • 718-836-2110
Mon-Th: 11-8:30pm; Fri-Sat: 11-9pm
Local Delivery Only • **FREE \$15**



Bright ideas

Gifts for all the men, women, teens — and pets! — you love



* Close shave

(At left) Alba five-piece bath and body gift set, \$18.95. At Body Essentials & More, 143 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place in Park Slope, (718) 230-3802, www.bodyessentialsmore.com.

* Indulge!

(Below) Holiday Gift Hamper, \$85. At Blue Apron Foods, 814 Union St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 230-3180.

* Timeless present

(Below) Antique Waltham 14K gold watch (with matching chain and knife, not shown), \$1400. Jewels By Satnick, 196 Joralemon St. at Court Street in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 852-1421.



* Everyone needs one

(At right) H.B. Smith 100 Piece Tool Set, \$19.99. At American Housewares, 85 Court St. at Livingston Street in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 243-0844.



* Cherished accessories

(At right) Letty New York hand-crocheted scarf and hat set, \$38. At Luce on the Hook Boutique, 281 Van Brunt St. at Visitation Place in Red Hook, (718) 852-1345.

* For man's best friend

(At left) Bow-ow First Aid Kit for Dogs, \$30.75. At Top Dog Shop, 169 Lincoln Pl. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 246-4600, www.topdogshop.com.

* Lap of luxury

(At right) Tivoli Leather Club Chair, \$399.99. At Door Store Furniture, 475 Atlantic Ave. at Nevins Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 237-6888, www.doorstorefurniture.com.

* Celebration time

(At left) Veuve Clicquot-Ponsardin champagne (750ml), \$37.99. At Ace Liquors, 455 Atlantic Ave. at Nevins Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 797-2558.

* For the crafter

(At right) Mosaic Essentials Set, \$45. At The Artful Place, 171 Fifth Ave. at Lincoln Place in Park Slope, (718) 399-8199, www.theartfulplace.com.

* Girl's best friend

(Above) KC Designs 14K, White Gold Diamond Circle Earring Charms with Diamond Huggies, \$720. At Michael C. Fina, 8211 Fifth Ave. at 82nd Street in Bay Ridge, (866) 893-3462.

* Light up her life

(Above) Soda France Candle in Holiday scent, \$32. At d'mai urban spa, 157 Fifth Ave. at Lincoln Place in Park Slope, (718) 398-2100, www.dmairuspaspas.com.



* For young musicians

(Above) Recording Adventure Workshop for teens in a professional music studio, \$145 (by Dec. 31, 2005). At Triple Z Music in DUMBO, (718) 624-6300, triplezmusic.com.

PHOTO CREDITS: Body Essentials: The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mergo; The Artful Place, D'Mai Spa, Top Dog Shop, Luce on the Hook, Jewels by Satnick, Blue Apron Foods: The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Callan

Celebrate New Year's Eve at



Celebrate a spectacular New Year's Eve in a majestic Victorian ballroom. Ring in the New Year with live music, delicious food and amazing entertainment in one of the most beautiful locations in all of New York.

Sat., Dec. 31, 2005 9:00 pm - 3:30 am

Featuring:

- Stowianic Dance Band with Andre Jewski
- Professional D.J. Music Between Sets
- Prospect Follies Dance Troupe
- A Spectacular Light Show

No New Year's Eve Celebration would be complete without excellent food and drink.

The Menu:

- Elaborate Cocktail Reception
- Grand International Buffet 9pm - 10pm
- Complete Five Course dinner
- Fillet Mignon Bordelaise 10pm - 3:30am
- Complete Open Bar
- Liquor, Wine, Beer & Champagne Toast
- Full Viennese Hour & Breakfast To Go!

Plus:

- Valet Parking on Site
- Noise Makers, Hats and Party Favors

For Reservations Call (718) 788-0777 ext. 2006
263 Prospect Avenue (bet. 5th & 6th Aves) PARK SLOPE
email: info@grandprospect.com

Complete Package:

\$175 per person

Sets are limited in size!

THIS SATURDAY

Brooklyn Heights

Jewish International Film Festival

Saturday
Dec. 10 at 7 pm

Paper Clips

(2004)

Directed by
Elliot Berlin & Joe Fab

Genre:
Holocaust Documentary
Running Time: 88 min.
MPAA Rating: G

Description:

Whitwell Middle School in rural Tennessee is the setting for this documentary about an extraordinary experiment in Holocaust education. Struggling to grasp the concept of six-million Holocaust victims, the students decide to collect six-million paper clips to better understand the extent of this crime against humanity. The film details how the students met Holocaust survivors from around the world and how the experience transformed them and their community.

Sponsored by the Jewish Executive Learning Annex at
Congregation B'nai Avraham of Brooklyn Heights

117 Remsen Street • (718) 596-4840
www.BnaiAvraham.com

FREE! WALK-INS WELCOME!

HOLIDAY Trunk Show & Boutique

Saturday evening
Dec. 17th, 8pm



Concentric Jewelry



Morgan Collection



SKITZO SCRAP GALLERY



Hats by Guy

handcrafted jewelry • designer bedding
robes • scarves • shawls • hats (functional & funky)
mens accessories • toys

Congregation B'nai Avraham
117 Remsen St. (bet. Clinton and Henry Sts)
cbo-listerhood@hotmail.com • (718) 596-4840 ext. 13



The Most Affordable View of the Manhattan Skyline and Brooklyn Bridge

Exceptional Italian Fare and Warm Service

NOW TAKING HOLIDAY PARTY RESERVATIONS

2 Water Street • Brooklyn 11201 • Phone 718-858-3510

www.PetesDowntown.com • PARTY ROOM AND CATERING

Casa Calamari

Pizza & Pasta

Mon-Thurs, 11:30am-7pm \$1 PINTS COORS/COORS LIGHT

CORPORATE & PRIVATE CATERING AVAILABLE - Up to 250 people

8602 3rd Avenue
(718) 921-1900

MARCO POLO RISTORANTE



New Year's Celebration 2006

Saturday, Dec. 31, 2005 8:30pm to 2:00am

Featuring a Four Course Dinner, Live DJ,
Midnight Champagne Toast & All Night Open Bar

Hors d'Oeuvres served upon arrival

Antipasto

Insalata d'Ascia Mediterraneo
Lobster Salad with Tomatoes & Onions

Primi Piatti

Tortelli Di Magro Salsa di Pomodoro e Basilico
Homemade pasta filled with Veal, Spinach & Parmesan Cheese
light tomato sauce & basil

Secondi Piatti

Combinazione Mignonette & Scampi
Sautéed filet tenderloin al Barolo with mushroom sauce & Broiled Prawns

Dessert

Prelibatezza ai due Cioccolatini Salsa Mou
White & Dark Chocolate Mousse Fondue

Piccola Pasticceria
Assorted Cookies

\$100 per person (Plus Sales Tax & Gratuity) \$75 per child under 12

345 Court Street at Union St. CARROLL GARDENS

(718) 852-5051 • www.marcopoloristorante.com

(Also offering a special Christmas & New Year's Eve Alla Carte Menu)

Make Your Reservations Now!

All Major Credit Cards Accepted - Free Valet Parking

'ROW' TO BE RAZED

Navy Yard's historic houses coming down

By Ariella Cohen
The Brooklyn Papers

Admiral's Row at the Brooklyn Navy Yard is now officially death row.

By the end of this year, the dilapidated mansions on the south-western edge of the yard will be demolished and replaced by a new grocery store at Flushing and Navy avenues. The creepy houses have been kept in virtual mothballs since the 1970s, when the Navy officers they were built to house were shipped out for good.

"The houses are decayed to a point that they can't be saved — and now we have a use for the land," said David Lowin, a vice president of the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation that will take over the derelict neighborhood.

Lowin revealed the fate of the mansions in a presentation to Brooklyn's elected officials at Borough Hall on Dec. 7. The lawmakers unanimously approved the demolition and the subsequent expansion of the Navy Yard. The vote allows Lowin's group to proceed without a competitive bid.

Activists urged the city to delay action pending a further study of ways to save this grand relic of Brooklyn's naval past. "They want a quick, fast and dirty solution," said Paul Palazzo of the Fort Greene Association. "They are knocking history down to put up cinderblocks."

Palazzo believes the houses could be converted into a retail space, but the city says it would cost millions to restore the badly damaged homes.

Supporters of the demolition hailed the vote. "This will create jobs and bring a much needed amenity — a grocery store — to a neighborhood that needs it," said Community Board 2 chair Shirley McKee.

In addition to Admiral's Row, the Navy Yard corporation plans to acquire two other vacant structures: the Naval Hospital and the 19th-century "Chief Surgeon's House," both city-designated landmarks that will be used as office space.

This latest transfer of property will allow the Navy Yards — which has been an industrial incubator since 1971 — to generate 950 new jobs, Lowin said.



The Navy Yard's historic "Admiral's Row" is set to be demolished.

Brooklyn Dog House
daycare & boarding

718 222-4900
7am-10pm weekdays, 9am-10pm weekends

- 2 supervised playgrounds — fun & SAFE
- web cams — watch your dog play
- carboise pick up and drop off
- air-conditioned / sprinklered building
- individual attention
- multi-pet & long-term boarding discounts

327 Douglass (at 4th Ave in Park Slope)
brooklyndoghouse.com

WALK-IN ADMISSIONS

"CHANGE YOUR FUTURE"

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN

- Dental Lab or Vision Care Technology • Nursing
- Medical Imaging • AutoCad • Biology
- Engineering • Culinary
- Career & Technology Teacher Education

or any of 57 baccalaureate, associate and certificate programs

For information about our majors and how to apply directly contact the

Office of Admissions

NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

300 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201
from Nov. 1, 2005 to Jan. 13, 2006

718.260.5500 • 877.NYC.TECH
www.citytech.cuny.edu

12 BWN

THE BROOKLYN PAPERS • WWW.BROOKLYNPAPERS.COM

December 10, 2005

Brooklyn PARENT

FAMILY CLASSIFIEDS

Instruction

guitar lessons

2002 Berklee College of Music Grad.
6 years teaching exp.
Diagrams of excellent ref.
eval. Patient & relaxed
teaching style. Excellent
rates. Beginners encour-
aged. Ages 7-up. Will
come to your home.

617-823-7784

LEW

SLOPE MUSIC

Instrumental & Vocal
Jazz • Classical • Folk • Rock
Call for free interview
charlessbiskin.com
Bands available

718-768-3804

W29.32

Piano Lessons

Piano Lessons can be fun!

I'm great with kids and adults.

IN FLATBUSH AREA

Call Christina

718-633-0583

B129

Parties

RICO

The Party Clown & Musician

Birthday parties and special occasions — Adults & Kids, Comedy, Magic, Strobe Lighting, Puppets, Games, M.C., Comic Roastings

718-434-9697

917-318-9092

W41/2/29-44

Tutoring

Test Prep / Math Tutor

Princeton Grad - exp. tutor.

Prep for Regents (Math A, B),

SHSAT - Sci H test; SAT (math,

reading, writing). At my office

in Park Slope or your home.

Ed Antoine

(718) 501-5111

229-05

Learning Specialist & Tutor Extrordinaire

Reading, Writing, Math

Elementary thru High School

Jo Kesten: 917-653-7399 cell

A68

Biology Tutor

MS in Biochemistry, NY Times

"Teacher Who Makes a Difference",

AP Bio Teacher at NYC Science HS.

idigdarwin@yahoo.com

(917) 204-1250

A48

English Tutor

Queens College M.A. NYC DOE

References, Multicultural History/

Expertise, 7-12 grades, SAT pro-

fessional. Every Student Deserves

The Best. Ms. Palmer.

(347) 306-2723

B148

Ph.D. provides outstanding

tutoring in Math, English, Social

Studies, special exams, includ-

ing SAT, LSAT, GRE, Specialized

H.S. Test, COOP, Regents. All

levels. Critical thinking and

study skills taught.

Dr. Lisa: (718) 767-0233

W22.04

Hidden holiday costs

On Black Friday, the so-called biggest shopping day of the year, Smartmom received an e-mail from her 14-year old son, Teen Spirit, which included a link to a website that sells slacker-chic t-shirts.

"So that's what he wants for Christmas," thought Smartmom.

Meanwhile, in the adjacent bedroom, Smartmom's 8-year old daughter, the Oh So Feisty One (OSFO), was marking up her just-received American Girl doll holiday catalog.

If there's something she wants she puts a big fat magic marker circle around it. But if it's something she really, really covets, like a colonial-era doll named Felicity, she draws hearts and stars.

And there were a lot of hearts and stars in that holiday catalog.

Buy, buy love. Hello, holidays.

It probably didn't help that at the exact time that Teen Spirit and OSFO were making their lists and e-mailing them twice, Smartmom's pal, Gluten-Free Mom, was taking her home-schooled kids to a "Buy Nothing Day" event.

"Event" makes it sound like a fun time, but it was actually a "teach-in" where the kids watched videos called "Affluenza" and "The End of Suburbs," and were schooled on the right way to rail against conspicuous consumption.

Afterwards, the Gluten-Free children went to the "Buy Nothing Day" market. "Gluten-Free Mom explained, 'You give away what you no longer want and take what others are giving away,'" she told Smartmom.

So her kids came home on Black Friday with their shopping bags full of sure, full of other people's stuff, of

SMART mom



By Louise Crawford

course, but full nonetheless.

So like Smartmom's kids, the Gluten-Free kids are just as prone to want the goods.

Nonetheless, no matter how "alternative" Gluten-Free Mom is with her children, her calls always send Smartmom into a frenzy of dark ruminations along the lines of: "Am I doing the right thing with MY children?"

Smartmom and her husband, Hepcat Daddy-O, never wanted the holiday

season to be a wanton bacchanal of materialism. Long ago, they decided that their offspring would receive only a modest number of gifts on each holiday (it's not just a bid to tamp down the materialism of the age — but all this gift-buying is expensive, too!).

But despite Smartmom and Hepcat's efforts, their children still believe that the holidays are all about the stuff.

How did Smartmom's kids get to be that way? Was it all Smartmom's fault? Or could she trot out a version of the Twinkie Defense and blame society?

After all, from the day Teen Spirit and OSFO were born (no, make that BEFORE they were born), presents from friends and relatives began to arrive — so many books, educational toys, trinkets, tchotchkes, stuffed animals, Legos, blocks, action figures, and Technicolored crap that it's no wonder the kids were destined to become good American consumers.

But Smartmom bears some blame, too. Even when her kids were still toddlers, every trip to Little Things in Park Slope — even just to buy a present for a kid not her own! — ended with a tantrum that Smartmom diffused by saying, "All right. Pick out something for yourself..."

Smartmom is also partly to blame for OSFO's obsession with American Girl dolls — those feisty young women who represent various periods of American history.

Initially, she thought, "Who could find fault with the anti-Barbies?" They don't have breasts and they're educational. They're practically Sunday School teachers!

There is no end to the number of dolls you can buy or the outfits and accessories you can add to your — I

mean your KID'S — collection. Once they've got you, you're hooked again, I SWEAR! I mean they have your KID hooked!

But Smartmom is also wise enough to know that if it wasn't American Girl dolls, it would certainly be something else. And the devil you know is always better than the one you don't. Or so they say.

So when Teen Spirit and OSFO were finally asleep on the night of Black Friday, Smartmom opened the marked-up holiday catalog that OSFO left open for her on the dining room table. She also "visited" the website where Teen Spirit's slacker-chic t-shirts are sold.

Then she looked at the mess in the living room and felt an anger well up inside of her there was Kit, the depression-era American Girl doll, her hobo overalls and cap lying on the rug. And she spotted Teen Spirit's indie CDs, his electric bass, iPod and laptop computer strewn about.

For a moment, Smartmom fantasized about packing it all up and sending it to a "Buy Nothing Day" flea market for others to pick through and take away.

Of course, she didn't. But she certainly wasn't going to get out the plastic and start ordering gifts. There are still four more weeks before Christmas, she thought. More than enough time to instill a small anti-consumerist message in her children.

And when that fails, plenty of time to order their gifts so they'll arrive before that highly anticipated holiday.

Louise Crawford (aka Smartmom) also runs the Web site Only the Blog Knows Brooklyn (http://onlytheblogknowsbrooklyn.typepad.com/).

Brooklyn Children's Academy Preschool presents our

Annual Holiday Benefit Concert

with **BRADY RYMER & The Little Band That Could**

Join us:

Saturday, Dec. 10th

10 a.m. School Open House • 11 a.m. Show Time

\$15 Adults / \$10 Children

Proceeds to Benefit the Brooklyn Children's Academy Preschool

Brady Rymer's "I Found It!"
Host for Kids With A Rock 'N' Roll Heart
Hear the music at: www.brooklynchildrens.org

For More Information Call Or Visit Us

WEEKLY OPEN HOUSES - CALL FOR DATES AND TIMES

122 Pierrepont Street, Ground Flr, Btw. Clinton and Henry Sts.
Brooklyn Heights, New York 11201 • 718-409-9516
www.brooklynchildrens.org • Cara Carley, Director

BROOKLYN'S ONLY WEEKLY PARENT PAGE

Brooklyn PARENT

To advertise call (718) 834-9350

ART FOR KIDS

theartistryproject

- After school programs
- Birthday parties
- Mommy and me
- Weekend workshops

www.theartistryproject.com

718-858-0217

185 Sackett Street between Henry and Hicks

Free trial for new students. See our website for details.

TEENS, LEARN MUSIC RECORDING WITH AN INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL!

- Full-day workshop in a professional music studio
- Hands-on experience for young musicians and computer buffs
- Sessions limited to small groups (6-8 max)
- Convenient location in Dumbo 2 blocks from F train
- Lunch included

Veteran music producer and composer, university professor, and Bacon Brothers band member Paul Guzzone gives kids 12-16 their first recording studio experience in a fun, friendly, and professional environment. They'll discover the studio secrets behind their favorite songs. They'll get behind the microphone and work the equipment. They'll record together like pros - and take home a CD.

the Recording Adventure Workshop

GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT! SPECIAL PRICE WITH THIS AD IF YOU RESERVE A SPACE BY DEC 31: \$145 (SAVE \$50)

Call for details: 718-624-6300 • tz@triplezmusic.com

Sessions on weekends and school holidays. Dates are scheduled as slots are filled.

MIX IT UP!

At KIDS COOK!, our eight-week program teaches children essential kitchen skills and techniques. Kids learn how to measure, sift, mix, whip, cut, grate and knead, as they prepare wholesome and delicious foods from around the world.

- Afterschool classes
- Private Parties
- Fun & learning for ages 6-13

All KIDS COOK! classes meet at the 170 Hicks Street kitchen

To register call June at (718) 797-0029

Kids cook!

Huggs Day School, Inc.

A fully licensed and certified preschool

- ☐ 2-4 year old programs
- ☐ Licensed teachers
- ☐ Optimal educational equipment
- ☐ Exclusive outdoor facilities
- ☐ Indoor Gym facilities
- ☐ 2, 3, 4 or 5 mornings, afternoons or full days
- ☐ Spacious Classrooms
- ☐ Enriched Curriculum
- ☐ Caring, loving environment

763 President Street (bet. 6th & 7th Aves.) • (718) 230-5255

the artful PLACE Creativity Central for Park Slope Families

Arts & Crafts Store and Studio

- Arts & Crafts Supplies
- Workshops for Kids & Adults
- Birthday Parties for Kids

This Week's Workshops

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Printmaking for Adults | Tues, 12/13 |
| Printmaking for Teens | Wed, 12/14 |
| Make a Card w/Quilling | Wed, 12/14 |
| Intro to Drawing | Thur, 12/15 |

(Pre-registration required)

171 Fifth Avenue (bet. Lincoln & Berkeley) in Park Slope
www.theartfulplace.com • (718) 298-9199

"INSPIRE • CREATE • PLAY"

Call for Bleaching Special



ZOOM!
Professional Whitening System

the science of smiles

whiten your teeth in about an hour!
take your first step to feeling good, looking great and making a memorable impression every time you smile. You owe it to yourself to find out more about Zoom! professional tooth whitening.

Call today!

Ronald I. Teichman, D.D.S.
Cosmetic And Family Dentistry

357 Seventh Avenue (At 10th St.), Park Slope
718-768-1111

DISCOUNT

Has IBS DISTORTED Your Way of Life?


If you have IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME, or IBS, you know the symptoms . . .

Abdominal Pain, Bloating, Constipation
...and you know they're real.

If you have experienced constipation-related IBS during the past year, we may have an option for you. Our physicians are studying an investigational medication to see if it relieves the symptoms of IBS.

If you qualify, you will receive all study-related care, including physical examinations, laboratory services, and study medication.

Call today: 718-349-3774



Mud is tossed over Billyburg landmarking

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Papers

Who knew that protecting beautiful buildings was such an ugly business?

The effort to protect an 80-year-old Cass Gilbert-designed warehouse on the Williamsburg waterfront broke down this week into a round of schoolyard name-calling and bitter accusations that the neighborhood's councilman sold his vote for campaign contributions.

The battle started in September, when the city Landmarks Preservation Commission designated the Austin, Nichols Co. warehouse a landmark.

In a rare move, the City Council, led by David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights), voted down the designation this week so that the building could be converted into high-end apartments on the waterfront.

The mayor vetoed the Council "de-landmarking" only to have the Council rush to override that veto the next day.

Yes, sports fans, the fur was



The Austin, Nichols Co. warehouse at 184 Kent St. was designed by Cass Gilbert

flying!

Supporters of landmarking the warehouse began a fairly loud whisper campaign detailing \$2,000 in campaign contributions that Yassky has received from two members of the developer's family, Joel and Margaret Kestenbaum.

But Yassky said the campaign cash had nothing to do with his vote.

"My vote [to de-landmark the building] was entirely on the merits about what is best

for the Williamsburg waterfront," Yassky told The Brooklyn Papers.

"The city spent three years bugging out a terrific revitalization plan for the Greenpoint and Williamsburg waterfront and I am unwilling to undermine it for a completely undistinguished building," he said.

"There are far more buildings in that neighborhood worthy of preservation."

But after Mayor Bloomberg

vetoed the Council bill and championed the Egyptian Revival building's "historical importance," Yassky hurried some mud of his own.

"The only reason they [city officials] pursued this landmark in the first place was to curry favor with preservationists after refusing to landmark 2 Columbus Circle," Yassky told the New York Times, referring to a quirky 1960s-era building in Manhattan that many want to see protected.

Now they'll milk [the veto] and really try to get political credit," Yassky added.

The comment earned a spit-bull from mayoral spokesman Jordan Barowitz.

"That's absolutely moronic," Barowitz said. "Is he saying we're pandering to the preservationists? As in, 'There goes that mayor again — protecting landmarks!' The two buildings have nothing to do with each other."

The Kestenbaum family, represented by former City Councilman — now lobbyist — Ken Fisher, refused to comment.

Nets drop 2 at home



The Nets' Richard Jefferson, left, is fouled by Toronto's Jose Calderon during the second quarter Saturday night.

By Lucky Ngamwajarat
The Brooklyn Papers

Nets 83

Pistons 93

Nov. 30, at E. Rutherford

Nets 82

Toronto 95

Dec. 3, at E. Rutherford

One step forward and two steps back has been the story this season for the Brooklyn-bound New Jersey Nets, who lost to the Pistons and Raptors at home this week and fell to 7-9 on the year.

The Pistons came to the Jersey swamps with the best record in the NBA this season — but the Nets had just ended a five-game West Coast trip by beating the Lakers and Nuggets.

The Pistons got the early jump on the Meadowlands, starting the game with a 7-2 run. The Nets struggled with their perimeter defense, which has been an ongoing problem this season, allowing too many open shots from the outside. Richard Hamilton was particularly troublesome for New Jersey, scoring 10 points in the opening quarter and ending the game with 30.

Detroit led by as many as 14 points in the first quarter. New Jersey responded with a blistering second frame, thanks to a defense that held the Pistons to just 12 points. Vince Carter carried the Nets, erupting for 10 points as the team took control of the game and went into the locker room with a 45-40 lead. Carter led the Nets with 27 points.

The revival would be short-lived. The Pistons came out for the second half and rained long jumpers — including 10-for-20 from three-point range. Meanwhile, the Nets were 0 for 7 on their long-distance calls. Rasheed Wallace's trey with 5:24 remaining in the third quarter gave Detroit a 54-53 lead that the Motor City madmen never relinquished. Chauncey Billups caught fire and Detroit pulled away, winning the game 93-83.

The loss to the Pistons was followed by a dreadful performance against Toronto. The Raptors were in the midst of back-to-back road games, yet it was the Nets who looked sluggish against the younger, inexperienced team.

The Nets let their 20-13 first-quarter advantage slip away as Chris Bosh dominated the paint against Nenad Krstic and Jason Collins, forcing them into foul trouble.

The Bosh-ing continued into the second quarter, with the 6-10 forward aided by bad perimeter defense yet again from the Nets. Bosh ended up leading all scorers with 29 points and 13 rebounds.

The Nets had a scare in the middle of the third quarter when it appeared that Vince Carter injured his ankle. Carter, who only recently returned from a back injury, did return and finished the game with 15 points.

The Nets were able to battle back in fourth quarter, tying the game at 80 with 4:11 left on a Richard Jefferson lay-up and foul shot. But the Nets would never take the lead.

Jose Calderon answered

LASERS
FOR THE REMOVAL OF...
Hair, Broken Blood Vessels, Wrinkles, Spider Veins (face & legs), Age Spots, Acne Scars, Stretchmarks

LIPOSUCTION
Totally under local anesthesia. Abdomen, lovehandles, thighs, hips, male breasts.

Acne • Spider Vein Treatment
Chemical Peels • Botox • Cellulite
Genital Warts • Herpes • Moles

FREE LIPOSUCTION CONSULTATION

Day & Evening Appointments • Affordable Fees
Many Insurances and Credit Cards Accepted

ALAN R. KLING, M.D.
BOARD CERTIFIED DERMATOLOGIST
Conditions Related To Hair, Skin & Nails

27 8th Avenue
(Corner Lincoln Place)
Park Slope, Brooklyn
(718) 636-0425

1000 Park Avenue
(at 84th Street)
New York City, NY
(212) 288-1300

comprehensive
HIV CARE

GENERAL MALE & FEMALE HEALTH ISSUES
We Accept All Insurance, Medicaid & ADAP

- Hormone Replacement
- Lipodystrophy
- Wasting Syndrome
- Salvage Therapy
- Case Management
- Legal Aid
- One-site Laboratory
- On-site Pharmacy (Early 2006)

Nutritional & Psychological Support

- Primary Medical Care
- Aggressive advocacy for over 15 years
- Board Certified Physician
- Multi-lingual staff

Kings County Ambulatory Medicine
at the Ambulatory Surgery Center of Brooklyn
313 - 43rd Street at 3rd Ave., Sunset Park
(800) 971-6019
(718) 369-1900
Near R, N & D trains and 35 & 37 buses

BCAT Program Guide — What's on Brooklyn Community Access Television

BCAT Helps These Brooklynites to "Get Ryte"

By Marianna Hernandez

DARNELL "LOONEY DON" HOSPEDALES IS NOT YOUR AVERAGE BROTHER FROM THE HOOD.

"Music is the air I breathe: it's the only constant that has surrounded me, through the good and bad," he says. "I've lived a tough life, growing up as an orphan, with only a grandma by my side, going from one place to the other. But now I want to build myself from nothing to something."

Besides hip-hop and rap, Hospedales has always had a soft spot for the camera lens. It wasn't until a year ago, after his friend Reggie "FurzDog" McDonald discovered Brooklyn Community Access Television (BCAT) through a show called *Green Paper Entertainment*, and then told him about it, that his true calling finally dawned on him: he wanted to make the leap from a struggling rap artist to a producer of a show about people just like him. Hospedales did not hesitate to dive head first into the TV world, especially since he had already done his homework by learning about video production and editing. Both Darnell and his friend completed their course requirements at BCAT, last winter, which earned them certification as community access television producers.

After months of preparation, Hospedales and his team watched the first episode that they have ever produced of their half-hour monthly show, *Get Ryte TV*, on a television screen in September 2005.

"This was the best day of my life, I was so happy. I have always dreamed of creating my own show and it is the most rewarding feeling," he says. "My show represents what I do in my life and how we party and how we live. It tells people about my team, and me and that's the hard-core truth. My idea was to incorporate music with real live action."

That's why we go out and film the parties, clubs, and fashion shows where we chill."

For Hospedales, the show represents more than just artist recordings; it's about the variety and the uniqueness of the music itself. "It features three brothers from the hood talking about the same topic in three different ways," he says.

The show's main mission is to point the artists in the most righteous and truthful light, to show the reality of where they come from and what they have been through, while at the same time sending the audience a message that people do not have to go out and do the same — they should strive to better their lives.

His star Ace, a Brooklynite, 22, who has been rapping for 12 years, is a prime example of what the show stands for, because after a life of gang banging and hustling, he finally shaped up and got his act together and is now raising his one-year-old daughter. His other star Kumble, 20, recalled getting shot and how he is now a changed man.

"This show is about family. It's about sticking together and changing our world for the better. It's about self-expression — teaching kids these days about music. And it's about giving our kids what we never had ourselves," he says.

Hospedales, like many artists, writes about what he knows and that is life



Darnell Hospedales, producer of *Get Ryte TV* on BCAT.

on the street. But he also derives his ideas from his Caribbean roots. During his childhood, he spent several years in St. Petersburg, Florida and a year in Barbados. He then moved back to Brownsville, in Brooklyn and has lived there ever since. Hospedales attributes his musical ear to rap icons such as Tupac, Biggie, and Jay-Z.

Besides producing the show, he had accomplished another dream, which was to own his own music business. He is currently the CEO and host of FolkUs Entertainment, brushing shoulders with artists like SplitStar, Busta Rhymes and working in conjunction with Koch Entertainment.

For his next adventure, he plans to open up a music school for children and to one day go and film a documentary in Africa.

"I'm glad I had the privilege to meet celebrities, but that's just a stepping stone for me. I want to make my mark and I won't stop until I do. This show helps keep me busy and to stay away from the hood," he says.

Get Ryte TV can be seen on BCAT at midnight on the 4th Saturday of the month on Time Warner Cable channel 56, Cablevision channel 69 and streaming live online at www.bcat.tv/bcat.

Castle Senior Living at Prospect Park

A full service retirement continuum, offer residents and their families:

WARM & HOMELIKE, setting with comfort and special conveniences

ACTIVE & INDEPENDENT lifestyle including in-house activities, cultural activities, social gatherings & weekly trips

PEACE OF MIND that each resident will lead a meaningful and dignified life

Call Today To Schedule Your Tour with Vicky or Desirée
1-718-622-8400

Ask about Respite stays

Castle Senior Living AT PROSPECT PARK
Compassion, Support, Loyalty

Castle Senior Living at Prospect Park
1 Prospect Park West
Brooklyn, New York 11215
www.castleseniorliving.com

The Art of Making Legs Perfect

— Veins of all sizes treated
— Varicosis and spiders treated
— 20 years experience
— Most work done in our office

21 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Before After

Brooklyn Vein-Laser Center
263 7th Avenue, Suite 5E • (718) 499-7755
www.perfectleg.com • fax (718) 499-7887

[illegible]

Channels 67, 68, 69, 70

OUR OPINION

'No' to bag checks

One of the greatest things about being an American is the freedom to be left alone by the police. But this freedom — one guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment — is under attack anew, thanks to a federal judge's ruling last week permitting the NYPD to resume random bag searches at subway entrances.

As a result, the NYPD was out in force this week — at such vital subway stations as York Street in DUMBO — randomly checking the bags of every few commuters.

Supporters of such searches claim that there is no difference

between the screening done at airports and what the NYPD is doing underground. But there is one huge distinction: at airports, every customer is searched, meaning that the minor inconvenience of being detained on one's way to the gate is not a random stab at catching a terrorist, but an actual method of doing just that.

Random searches, on the other hand, are useless window-dressing. NYPD policy allows a person to leave a station if he refuses to be searched. Such a would-be terrorist then has three choices: He can enter a different station,

wait a few minutes and re-enter the same station or, presumably, detonate himself on the busy street above.

What's more, entering any station in the system allows would-be bombers access to the entire system, making searches at busy hubs like Times Square, Grand Central, Roosevelt Avenue or Jay Street irrelevant.

As long as a terrorist has a map of the system, we're all vulnerable.

Of course, if the politicians are serious about stopping terrorism rather than just talking about stop-

ping terrorism, they could provide the NYPD with the money and training it requires to do its job.

A terrorist-savvy police force could then target individuals meeting properly drafted profiles or otherwise raising legitimate suspicion: searches might also be conducted with the intent of flushing out potentially unnoticed suspects in the vicinity of the search.

Presumably, the NYPD is not yet up to this task. Instead, it has opted for a pointless, time-wasting, Fourth Amendment-challenging undertaking in our city's 569 stations.

ALL DRAWN OUT



TO THE EDITOR

Brooklyn's A-list celebs? Don't forget Heath!

To the editor:

Letter writer Jeza Kaye appears to be in the throes of celebrity worship so desperate in her recent fawning over Rosie Perez ("Rosie knows best," letters, Nov. 26).

Not only does Ms. Perez not have a "vision" for Brooklyn, she is a non-presence here in the fight against Bruce Ratner.

Presumably, she is otherwise occupied trying to restart a career that peaked with her first movie — which dates from the last millennium!

If Ms. Kaye needs to live vicariously, why doesn't she move up to an A-list'er? Jennifer Connolly lives in Park Slope and Heath Ledger —

the new Brad Pitt! — is moving to Boerum Hill.

D.L. Pinella,
Ocean Hill-Brownsville

Bike paths need trimming

To the editor:
Perhaps more bicycle paths will be created ("City: Bike paths get better," Nov. 26), but drivers continue to use them for double-parking because neither the police department nor the Department of Transportation will keep cars off the paths. Even when bike paths are well marked and there are "No

standing anytime" signs, the paths are never car-free. If the police and the Department of Transportation will not ticket and tow offending cars now, why should we expect new bike paths to be better?

George Korval, Park Slope

GOP's last bash

To the editor:
Your otherwise excellent post-election coverage missed the point that Mayor Bloomberg's second term may be the last for the Republican — and it certainly doesn't signal the rebirth of a two-party system in the Big Apple. Republicans couldn't field any candidate for ei-

ther comptroller or public advocate. And all four GOP challengers for borough president in Brooklyn, the Bronx, Manhattan and Queens raised so little funding, that they couldn't qualify for matching funds.

Under former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Republicans held a record seven seats on the Council. With Mayor Bloomberg leading the ticket, they couldn't expand beyond their current three seats.

Mayor Bloomberg had no coattails on which Republican Council candidates could ride. The five most hopeful Republican candidates — Peter Boudouvas (who got 38 percent in Queens), Pat Russo (45 percent in Brooklyn), Philip

Foglia (36 percent in the Bronx), Joel Zinberg (35 percent in Manhattan) and Patrick Murphy (35 percent in Manhattan) — all lost badly.

You can't build a political party around the cult of a single individual such as Mayor Bloomberg. Without running a full active ticket for all public offices including comptroller, public advocate, borough president and district attorney, candidates for City Council had no chance. Several hundred thousand Democrats who voted for Bloomberg returned to vote for Democratic party candidates on the rest of the ballot.

Larry Penner, Great Neck

I do want a park!

To the editor:

Marianna Koval, director of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy, apparently believes that people who disagree with the current design — which includes high-end residential dwellings inside the park — oppose the park altogether. How totally ridiculous.

I am opposed to residential structures of any kind because I believe that citizens pay taxes so that government will build public parks. But the proposed Brooklyn Bridge Park design paradigm — what is being called "sustainable parks" — is very frightening. If it spreads, we

will see more of the same: parks will be in horrible condition unless they are in rich neighborhoods. I want this park as much as Ms. Koval — but what I don't want is a park that will exist to support high-end residential buildings and their residents.

Diane Buchbaum, Carroll Gardens
The author is vice chair of the New York chapter of the Sierra Club

Send your letter via e-mail to: letters@brooklynpapers.com; by mail to: Editor, The Brooklyn Papers, 55 Washington St. Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201 or by fax to: (718) 834-9278.

BROOKLYN BRIEFS

Fort Hamilton saved again, this time 'for good'



Defenders of Fort Hamilton in Bay Ridge have won another battle to keep the base open.

The Brooklyn Papers

Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn's last remaining active-duty military base, has been saved — and this time, it's for good. The 155-acre Army base at the foot of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge — which had survived the most recent round of base closures — remained off the list of bases to be closed that Congress finally approved last month.

But it was never a certainty. "There was an open window," said Craig Donner, a spokesman for Rep. Vito

Fosella (R-Bay Ridge).

"They could've moved us or shut us down, but thankfully, the recommendation to keep us open is the law."

Now the party is on Vito. On Monday, Dec. 12, Fosella will host a victory bash at Xaverian High School. Patriotic songs will be sung by a USO troupe. And parties can expect to hear at least a few teary tributes to the 150-year-old base.

The only question left unanswered: Will the enlistment be invited?

— Ariella Cohen

The Brooklyn Papers

Can't they all just get along?

Sick of ceding the bike lanes to "greedy" motorists, bicyclists last week defended their turf — a new bike path that runs up Clinton Street between Cobble Hill and the Manhattan Bridge.

With heavy chains strung across their chests like bandoliers, a crew of helmet-haired bikers knocked on car windows and passed out tips to drivers on how to peacefully co-exist with their two-wheeled foes.

"Drivers were surprisingly receptive," said David Snetman of Transportation Alternatives, who organized the "Give Respect/Get Respect" campaign.

Snetman said that only 10 percent of motorists outright refused the bikers' pamphlet. But that doesn't mean motorists have accepted the rules of the road.

"It gets hostile out there," said Brian Schundler, who lives in Prospect Heights. "I'll be riding along in the shoulder and drivers will pull up really close to me and honk."

The bike advocates campaign is partly fueled by the June death of rider Elizabeth Padilla, who was killed by a truck on the corner of Fifth Avenue and Prospect Place.

Better awareness of road-sharing rules could have saved Padilla's life.

"That truck was parked in the bike lane," said Snetman. "And because it was, she veered into traffic." Twenty-one bikers died this year in traffic accidents, a bump up from last year's death toll of 16.

Another leafleting event is planned on Fifth Avenue in Park Slope on Friday, Dec. 15, during the evening rush hour.

— Ariella Cohen

Five years later T-bolt demolition OK'd



The Thunderbolt rollercoaster stands half-demolished on Sunday, Nov. 18, 2000, when the city tore down the Coney Island "eyesore."

The Brooklyn Papers

The city has been cleared of wrongdoing for tearing down the decrepit Thunderbolt roller coaster in Coney Island in 2000 as preservationists were struggling to get it landmarked.

The ruined coaster — famed for its appearance in Woody Allen's "Annie Hall" — was torn down in 2000 to make room for KeySpan Park, future home of the Brooklyn Cyclones. It terrified its last kid in 1982.

In a decision handed down this week, the U.S. Court of Appeals upheld a lower-court ruling that the city did not deny the Thunderbolt's own-

er, Horace Bullard, due process when it sent bulldozers to tear down the burnt-out shell of the 1920s-era thrill ride.

The city's letter warning Bullard of the impending demolition was sent to the wrong address — but both courts ruled that it was a mere clerical error and therefore did not violate Bullard's constitutional rights.

And the panel upheld the lower court, which ruled that the "Thunderbolt had no value, and that demolition either increased or failed to diminish the fair market value."

Bullard's lawyer said a sinister hand in the ruling. "We've already seen the Supreme

Court rule that a local government can condemn private property and hand it over to a developer — but now, this court is ruling that a city can demolish your private property simply upon sending a form letter that neither tells you what is wrong nor offers you hearing to contest," said the lawyer, Barry Gedan.

And the letter doesn't even have to get to you, Gedan added.

City lawyers were clearly pleased by the appeals court ruling.

"It's another vindication of the city's position that demolishing the Thunderbolt ... cause the owner no harm," said city lawyer Scott Short.

— Gersh Kuntzman

Become Ratner's 'Apprentice'

The Brooklyn Papers

The Bruce Ratner-funded nonprofit organization BUILD treated six Columbia University MBA students to lunch and a pitch for a summer internship aimed at helping small businesses get their piece of the \$3.5-billion Atlantic Yards pie.

The students appreciated the

offer — and the brown-bag lunch.

"It seems like a way to get involved with the good parts of the project," Columbia MBA Neel Gandhi said after the Thursday luncheon.

"Why not get involved with the biggest development in the city?" No one has ap-

plied for the internship yet.

Students expect that the competition will be heated — not that anyone is talking.

Even Gandhi — a student told The Brooklyn Papers to "talk to a spokesman" for Ratner rather than

speak candidly about the internship.

BUILD — rarely known by its longer name, Brooklyn United for Innovative Local Development — will cast a wider net for business students, with a lunch planned soon at Long Island University, a spokesperson said.

Really ambitious B-school types can also contact BUILD directly.

— Ariella Cohen

Antenna 'emergency'

The Brooklyn Papers

The cellphone tower set to be installed atop 8300 Fourth Ave. has officially become an emergency.

Members of Community Board 10 have been summoned to an "emergency" meeting on Tuesday to discuss a recent U.S. Court of Appeals ruling that allows cities to block cellphone antennas under some circumstances.

Parents at nearby St. Anselm's School have asked the Community Board to vote on whether to allow the antenna to be installed in their midst. Although the board's

vote is only advisory, it is expected to weigh in at the meeting Tuesday, which will be held at 621 86th St.

The public is invited. Just don't talk on a cellphone during the meeting.

Meanwhile, Jeff Malloock, the owner of 8300 Fourth Avenue, will meet with the Department of Buildings on Tuesday in hopes of being allowed to install the controversial equipment. Last month, construction was halted when the DOB claimed Malloock did not have the right permits. He says he does.

— Gersh Kuntzman



Win a honeymoon

Enter The Brooklyn Bride contest to win a 7-night cruise for two to the Caribbean or Mexican Riviera, sponsored by MICHAEL C. FINA

Carnival
The Fun Ships.

NCL
NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE
FREESTYLE CRUISING

Royal Caribbean
INTERNATIONAL

On Carnival, Norwegian or Royal Caribbean Cruise lines. Packaged by Mini Vacations Inc.

Contest open to engaged couples & couples married since Jan. 1. Enter by Wed. Jan. 4.

Mail to: January Contest, The Brooklyn Bride, c/o The Brooklyn Papers, 55 Washington St, Ste 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

Or enter online at www.TheBrooklynBride.com. ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY WED. JAN. 4.

BRIDE'S NAME: _____
GROOM'S NAME: _____
WEDDING DATE (between January 1, 2005 and December 2007): _____
STREET ADDRESS: _____
CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____
DAYTIME PHONE: _____ CELL OR EVENING PHONE: _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____
NAME AND RELATION OF PERSON SUBMITTING ENTRY: _____
☐ BRIDE ☐ GROOM ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY) _____

CONTEST RULES

1) The winning entry will be chosen by members of The Brooklyn Papers staff designated by The Brooklyn Papers management from among eligible entries received by the contest deadline. The decision of The Brooklyn Papers judges is final.

2) No purchase necessary to enter or win. Contest information and rules are published in The Brooklyn Papers, which are free newspapers, and are online at www.TheBrooklynBride.com. By submitting an entry, contest participants agree to be bound by all of the contest rules.

3) The deadline for all entries is Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2006. Entries submitted by mail must be in the offices of The Brooklyn Papers, and entries submitted online must be retrieved from the designated e-mail box, not later Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2006. The mailing address is: **January Contest, The Brooklyn Bride, c/o The Brooklyn Papers, 55 Washington St, Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Entries may not be personally delivered to the offices of The Brooklyn Papers.**

4) The Brooklyn Papers is not responsible for late, lost, damaged or misdirected mail or courier deliveries or e-mails.

5) The winner will be notified by phone, e-mail or mail on or before Friday, Jan. 6.

6) The winner will have two (2) days after notification by The Brooklyn Papers to claim

the prize by completing, signing and returning an Affidavit of Eligibility and a Publicity Release; otherwise, an alternate winner will be selected.

7) At a time scheduled by The Brooklyn Papers, the winner must pick up the cruise certificate at a location designated by The Brooklyn Papers and pose for a photograph that may be published by The Brooklyn Papers in any media. The photograph, and caption and any promotional information written by The Brooklyn Papers staff, may be used in any media and in any manner—including but not limited to editorial, promotional and advertising use—at the sole discretion of The Brooklyn Papers.

8) In order for a winner to claim a prize, The Brooklyn Papers may require the winner to produce a valid Social Security number and photo identification including at least one of the following: driver's license, state-issued photo ID or a current passport.

9) The contest is open to qualified entrants who are getting married by December 2007 or have been married since Jan. 1, 2005. The winner will be required to provide proof of marriage (copy of wedding certificate) or an affidavit affirming an engagement to be married.

10) All entries become the sole property of The Brooklyn Papers, which may publish the entries at any time in print, online or in any other media without additional permission and without compensation. Entries may be

edited and used in any manner deemed appropriate by The Brooklyn Papers.

11) Employees, vendors and family members of The Brooklyn Papers, Michael C. Fina and Mini Vacations Inc. are ineligible to win. 12) The Brooklyn Papers and Michael C. Fina are not responsible or liable in any way for any failure on the part of Mini Vacations Inc. cruises. Cruise certificate may not be exchanged for cash value.

13) The winner will receive a certificate valid for a 7-night cruise for two adults (double occupancy required). Accommodations are an entry-level cabin. Upgrades to outstanding ocean views or balconies are available for a surcharge.

14) To be eligible for this offer, passengers must be 21 years of age or older with a valid identification and a major credit card. United States travelers need proof of citizenship, including a valid Passport, and photo ID; resident aliens need an Alien Resident Card; aliens need a valid Passport and valid U.S. Multiple Re-entry Visa; resident aliens and aliens must contact the appropriate consulates to inquire about necessary travel documentation.

15) To validate the cruise certificate, the winner must complete the registration validation form and return it via U.S. Mail prior to the activation date shown on the registration validation form. The cruise offer expires 18 months from the activation date and all travel must be completed by that date.



16) All reservation requirements in the cruise certificate must be met. A minimum of 90 days advance notice is required to process a reservation request. Port charges, government taxes and applicable processing fees must be received immediately once a request has been made for a sailing date.

17) Cruise ships depart from either Miami, Florida; Tampa, Florida; San Juan, Puerto Rico; or Los Angeles, California. Airline tickets, airport transfers and miscellaneous expenses are not included. This offer is for the cruise only.

18) Selected sailings are available on a year-round basis, with a surcharge per person for peak season or holiday sailings.

19) Only one travel offer per household may be used in an 18-month period. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotional travel package.

20) The winner should not leave for the cruise until receiving written confirmation. All cruises are booked according to the availability of Mini Vacations Inc.'s allotment of staterooms.

21) The Brooklyn Papers, Michael C. Fina and Mini Vacations Inc. are not to be held responsible for any act of God, and/or any other circumstances beyond their control, that causes the cruise to become unavailable. Mini Vacations Inc. reserves the right to substitute the components of the offered vacation and varied itinerary should circumstances so require. If this offer becomes

unavailable to Mini Vacations Inc., Mini Vacations Inc. has the option to substitute another travel incentive of equal or greater value.

22) The Brooklyn Papers, Michael C. Fina and Mini Vacations Inc. and its agents, assignees or designees act independently of the cruise lines and not as agents or employees thereof, and will not assume responsibility for any loss, delay, accident, injury or damage to persons, property or any liability whatsoever arising from or in conjunction with the services provided by the cruise lines.

23) The Brooklyn Papers, Michael C. Fina and Mini Vacations Inc. assumes no responsibility for any verbal or written representations made in conjunction with this offer by any distributor and/or their agents other than those included in this offer.

24) An alternate winner may be selected in the event of noncompliance with any of the contest rules.

25) All federal, state and local laws apply and the payment of all taxes is the sole responsibility of the winner. This contest is void where prohibited by law.

26) The Brooklyn Papers reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to extend or cancel the contest.

27) In the event of any dispute pertaining to this contest, the decision of The Brooklyn Papers management is final.

Albany, New York 12207. FIFTH: The limited liability company is to be managed by 1 or more members. Joanne A. Burkhardt, Organizer.

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| <p>Architects</p> <p>AWARD WINNING LICENSED ARCHITECT & INTERIOR DESIGNER</p> <p>From Concept to Completion Residential Commercial Manufacturing Alterations & New Buildings</p> <p>• Realistic Estimates & Time Schedules</p> <p>• Construction Management</p> <p>• Expediting Approvals & Permits</p> <p>Department of Buildings & Landmarks</p> <p>Buyer of Real Estate & Property Potential</p> <p>To pay or not to pay</p> <p>Martinella de Paolera ARCHITECT</p> <p>65 Saint Felix St. B'klyn NY 11217</p> <p>TEL (718) 596-2379</p> <p>FAX (718) 596-2379</p> <p>EMAIL: felix@3609d.com</p> | <p>Construction</p>  <p>ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN INTERIOR RENOVATIONS</p> <p>COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL</p> <p>CUSTOM RENOVATION SPECIALIST</p> <p>LICENSED & BONDED</p> <p>400000000 FULLY INSURED</p> <p>LEVEL ONE CONSTRUCTION CORP</p> <p>1 (917) 847-8307</p> | <p>Handyman</p> <p>PAINTING SPECIAL • PAINTING SPECIAL • PAINTING SPECIAL</p> <p>SIDING SPECIAL HANDYMAN FOR YOUR SERVICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interior/Exterior Painting • Sheet Rock Work Tub Reglazing • Windows/Window Repair Fences • Roofing/Shingles • Floor Sanding Floors • Vinyl Siding • Awnings • AC Installation Aluminum Work • Gutters/Ladders • Bathrooms Replacements in Kitchens • Friezes • Drywall Ceramic Tile • Custom Wood Work • Ceiling Fans <p>10% OFF With Coupon</p> <p>YOUR SATISFACTION IS MY GOAL • COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL All Work Guaranteed • No Job Too Small • Free Estimates</p> <p>Luis 917-642-7379</p> <p>ALL TYPES OF HANDYMAN WORK</p> | <p>Movers (Licensed)</p> <p>MOVING YOUR WAY</p> <p>Moving co. T33315 584 6th Av</p> <p>LICENSED/INSURED</p> <p>718-788-4920</p> <p>Free Estimate & Box Delivery</p> <p>POSITIVELY LOWEST PRICES!</p> | <p>Stairs</p> <p>Cee Dee PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Broken or Missing Baluster/Spindles</p> <p>Weak or Broken Steps (Treads, Stringers or Risers)</p> <p>Call: 718-893-4006</p>  <p>FLOOR SANDING ALSO AVAILABLE</p> |
|--|---|--|---|---|

Stairs

Cee Dee
PROFESSIONAL
CONTRACTORS

Broken or Missing
Baluster/Spindles
Weak or Broken Steps
(Treads, Stringers or Risers)

Call: 718-893-4006

FLOOR
SANDING
ALSO
AVAILABLE



Tree Service

JC TREE SERVICE

Tree Removal Pruning
Stump Grinding Toppings
Free Load of Wood Chips
No Job Too Big or Too Small
Senior Discount Free Estimates
Licensed & Insured

718-896-2158 717-721-5356

Askefor Jun

Tiling

 **John Costelloe**

Plumbing and Tile Work. Toilets, faucets and shower bodies replaced. Specializing in tile jobs - large and small.

Free Estimates • Reasonable Rates
John Costelloe (718) 768-7610

Tiles for Sale
We have a full line of porcelain
ceramic, marble, granite, etc.
for sale at competitive prices!

(718) 771-0258
829/


Tree Service

Four Seasons

TREE SERVICE
718-207-0762
Free Estimate!
20 Years Experience

Tree Service

 **Sunshine**
Land & Tree, Inc.
Tree Removal and Pruning
Land clearing, stumps ground

Licensed & Insured 
718-627-1014/516-546-5447
 B29-1

Upholstery



- Livingroom Furniture
- Kitchen and dining chairs
- New foam cushions
- Slipcovers
- Window Treatments and verticals
- Table Pads

Free Estimates

Perfect Touch Decorators
718-263-8383

30 yrs experience • Serving the 5 Boroughs
B29/1

Windows

Quality Replacement

Windows and Repairs
Repair ALL TYPES of windows.
Screens and insulated glass.
Save Energy!
Custom Window Installation
Licensed & Insured • Reasonable Rates
Call Rene (718) 227-8787

Woodworking

PSST!!

recapture the original beauty of your fine architectural woodwork. We strip-restore-refinish doors, mantels, columns, shutters, banisters with removers and finishes. Careful considerate workmanship since 1959. Call the *Park Slope Stripping Team* @ 718 783-4112.

www.Kelimeshiny.com

X29-0